



# GAZETTEER OF INDIA UTTAR PRADESH



## DISTRICT GARHWAL

# UTTAR PRADESH DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



## GARHWAL

Dr PARMANAND MISHRA

State Editor

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## PREFACE

The present Gazetteer of the district is thirteenth in the series of revised District Gazetteers of the State of Uttar Pradesh which are being published under a scheme jointly sponsored and financed by the Union and the State Governments.

The earliest account of the Garhwal district was E. T. Atkinson's, *The Himalayan Districts of the North-Western Provinces of India*, Vols. I to III (Allahabad 1882-86) and various Settlement Reports of the region. Later came H. G. Walton's *British Garhwal : A Gazetteer*, (Allahabad, 1910) and its supplements. A bibliography of the published works used in the preparation of the present Gazetteer, appears at its end.

The census data of 1961 and 1971 in general have been made the basis for the statistics used in this Gazetteer.

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Dr PARMANAND MISHRA  
State Editor

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## CHAPTER I

### GENERAL

#### Origin of Name of District

Garhwal forms part of the Garhwal Division, a vast hill tract, comprising the five districts of Chamoli, Dehra Dun, Tehri Garhwal, Uttar Kashi and Garhwal. The word or name Garhwal means having or possessing *garh* (forts). Tradition has it that the tract was a "Bawani" meaning having *bawan* or 52 forts, the region at one time being occupied by 52 chiefs, each with his own fort. The name has also been interpreted to denote a country of *gads*—a *gad* being the local term for a narrow valley. The district of Garhwal, as the name suggests, is like a fort, having high ridges for the ramparts, the *bhabar* for the gradient and the town known as Kotdwara (meaning *dwar* or gate of the *kot* or fort) on the left bank of the river Khoh, being the entrance to the fort.

#### Location, Boundaries, Area and Population

**Location and Boundaries**—The district lies between Lat. 29° 26' and 30° 19' N. and Long. 78° 12' and 79° 14' E. In shape it looks like an equilateral triangle with its southern apex protruding between the districts of Bijnor and Naini Tal, the western between the districts of Bijnor and Dehradun and the North-eastern between Tehri Garhwal and Chamoli. It is bounded on the north and north-west by the Alaknanda and the Ganga respectively which separate it from the districts of Tehri Garhwal and Dehra Dun. The north-eastern side is bounded by district Chamoli and the eastern by district Almora. Districts Naini Tal and Bijnor lie to the south-east and south-west respectively and that of Dehra Dun to the north-west. The maximum length from east to west is 103 km. and the maximum breadth from north to south about 100 km.

**Area**—According to the central statistical organisation of India, the district had an area of 5,440 sq. km. in 1971 and stood 23rd in respect of area among the districts of Uttar Pradesh.

**Population**—According to the census of 1971, the population of the district was 5,53,028 (females 2,91,974) the rural population being 5,18,181 (females 2,78,344) and the urban 34,847 (females 13,630). The district then stood 50th in respect of population in Uttar Pradesh.

#### History of District as Administrative Unit

Centuries ago, the entire Garhwal region was divided into a number of petty principalities, said to have been 52 in numbers,

which were subsequently united under Ajaypal, 37th in the line of descent among the Panwar rulers, who had started the process of integration in A.D. 883. In 1803, the Gurkhas from Nepal invaded this region and the ruler Raja Pradyuman Sah was killed at Dehra Dun but his son Sudarshan Sah succeeded in freeing the region from them in 1815 with the help of the East India Company but the latter compelled him to cede to it a substantial area which was administered directly by the Company through a Commissioner. In 1837, Garhwal became a separate subdivision under an assistant commissioner and in 1891 it was constituted a district which was named British Garhwal. It was then divided into three subdivisions, Pauri, Lansdowne and Chamoli, each under the charge of a deputy collector. After Independence, in 1947, the word "British" was dropped from the name. In 1960, the subdivision or tahsil of Chamoli was separated to form the district of Chamoli. The district formed part of the Kumaon Division till 1968, when it was included in the newly created Garhwal Division.

### **Subdivisions, Tahsils and Thanas**

The district has been divided into two subdivisions, Barahsun and Lansdowne, the former comprising tahsil Pauri and the latter tahsil Lansdowne.

Tahsil Pauri, comprising the north-eastern part of the district, is bounded on the north-west by the Ganga and on the north by the Alaknanda, both separating it from district Tehri Garhwal. On the north-east lies the district of Chamoli and the south-eastern boundary is formed by the district of Almora and tahsil Lansdowne, the latter forming the western boundary also. According to the census of 1971, it has a population of 2,05,163 (females 1,11,693), the rural population being 1,90,139 (females 1,05,598) and the urban 15,024 (females 6,095). The tahsil contains 1,207 inhabited and 185 uninhabited villages besides the towns of Pauri, Srinagar and Bah Bazar (Bah). For development purposes, it has been divided into six development blocks.

Tahsil Lansdowne, comprising the major portion of the district is bounded on the north-west and north by district Tehri Garhwal and tahsil Pauri respectively, the former being separated from the tahsil by the river Ganga and the latter by the river Nayar. On the east lies the Almora district and on the south-east the district of Naini Tal. The southern and the western boundaries are formed by district Bijnor and on the north-west lies the district of Dehra Dun, the Ganga flowing in between tahsil Lansdowne and district Dehra Dun. Tahsil Lansdowne, which is bigger than the Pauri tahsil in size has, according to the census of 1971, a population of 3,47,865 (females 1,80,281), the rural population being 3,28,042 (females 1,72,746) and the urban 19,823 (females 7,535). The tahsil contains 2,029 inhabited and 157 uninhabited villages besides the towns of Kotdwara, Lansdowne and Dogadda. For development purpose it has been divided into eight development blocks.

**Thanas**—There are four thanas in the district, one each located at Kotdwara, Lansdowne, Pauri and Srinagar, most of the police work being done by the *patwari* who has the powers of a station officer within his own *patti*. The *patwaris* are collectively known as the Garhwal revenue police. The number of police outposts in the district is 11 of which one is located at Devaprayag (in district Tehri Garhwal).

### TOPOGRAPHY

The district is almost entirely mountainous with no level terrain except the pasture of Panai on the banks of the Alaknanda, the helm of Srinagar and the submountainous tract. It consists of a succession of steep mountain ridges divided from each other by deep valleys which are narrow and precipitous. Physiographically, it may be divided into three main parts, the mountains and ridges, the valleys and lastly, the submountainous tracts.

**Mountains and Ridges**—The spur which gives the key to the mountain system of Garhwal is one which, proceeding from Nandakot in district Chamoli, runs down the left bank of the Pindar in a south-westerly direction in district Chamoli and afterwards in westerly direction to the Dodatoli range in this district which is the most massive range in the whole of the Garhwal Division. The main peak, Dodatoli, on the eastern border of the district, is 3,174 m. above sea-level. Spurs which preserve a mean elevation of 2,438 m. branch off from this peak in all directions. Of these the most important are the one to the north-west of the Dhanpur range, another south-west of the Devithank and Ameli group and a third, south-ward of the Khatli hills. In the Dhanpur range, once remarkable for its copper mines, the precipitous black rock of the Bandhangarhi spur is observed. The range runs due east and west, preserving an altitude of over 2,740 m. for 11 km. and contains several peaks over 2,950 m. in height. It continues eastward and southward through Khirsu, Devidat (above Pauri) and Ranigarh (Adwani), all its peaks being above 2,130 m. above sea-level and only a few parts of the range being less than 1,830 m., to Bvansghat, the whole thus separating the Nayar valley from the Alaknanda. The Ameli spur, which continues as far as the junction of the eastern and western Nayars and separates the valley formed by these two rivers. The Binsar spur, with its continuing ranges, forms the eastern and southern boundaries of the Nayar basin the Ranigarh forming its northern and western boundaries. The Khatli range, which is joined to the Dodatoli by the Binsar spur, runs east and west and continues from Khamlekgarhi on the Almora border to Rikhnikhali, a low pass between the Iriyakot and Painon *patties*. The principal peak is over 2,440 m. above sea-level, several being above 2,130 m. The ridge, continuing towards the west between Rikhnikhali and Chametakhal (above 1,200 m.), is known as the Utain range from the principal peak which is over 2,100 m. in height. The ridge thence continues in a succession of peaks, among which the Kalongarhi (Lansdowne) and the Langurgarhi are the most important and passes to Karaunnda (Kich-kadanda) where the ridge splits into two which enclose the Haini

valley and separate it on the one hand from the Nayar and the Ganga and on the other from the minor streams flowing direct to the plains.

**Valleys**—The valleys in the district are deep depressions, from the line of drainage for all surplus water between the ranges and are the other natural and distinctive features of the district. The continuous action of water has ploughed those valleys out of the great mountain mass. The chief valleys in the district are those of the Ganga, the Alaknanda, the Ramganga and the Nayar and its two branches.

The Ganga valley, which commences almost from the confluence of the Bhagirathi and the Alaknanda near Bah, comprises a narrow belt as far as Byansghat (in pargana Barhasyun) and a strip along the northern part of pargana Ganga Salan. The valley in pargana Barhasyun is comparatively wider and well cultivated. the villages are large and the population is hard working. In pargana Ganga Salan it is rocky and rugged as the river forces its way through steep precipices. Here the villages are small and poor, the population is sparse and only scattered patches of cultivated land are found here and there.

The Alaknanda valley, borders the district on the north from Sivanandi to Bah and includes the Panai and Srinagar valleys. The road to Badrinath runs through it, the scenery along it being particularly striking and beautiful. Devalgarh, the seat of the early rajas of Garhwal, Srinagar, the ancient capital, and the Dhanpur copper mines are located in this valley. The upper portion of the valley is covered with forests of *banj* (oak) and *chir* (pine). In the lower portions the forests have been cleared from the level ground and gently sloping hills and the tracts so cleared have been brought under the plough.

Patlidun is the name given to the grassland lying on both sides of the Ramganga. This grassland forms a valley about 20 km. long and 1.5 km. to 3 km. wide. It is separated from the Kohtri and Chokham *duns* by some kilometres of precipitous and broken tract on the west. On the south two ridges of low hills separate it from the *bhabhar*. The whole country is one mass of watercourses, known locally as *sots* or *raos*, which drain the ridges on both sides of the Ramganga valley. The sal (*Shorea rubusta*) forests, through which the Ramganga flows, are situated on slopes, sometimes gentle, sometimes precipitous and steep. The land here and there on both sides of the river was cultivated till 1858 when it was handed over to the forest department. The villagers and cultivators were removed from the area and were given lands elsewhere. Tigers and wild animals are fairly numerous in the area and owing to the broken nature of the country and unlimited water supply the tract forms a natural game preserve. The forest department has inspection bungalows every 13 to 15 km. down the Ramganga from where it enters the reserved forests to Kalagarh.

The valleys of the two branches of the Nayar drain the central part of the district. The northern and southern branches of the Western Nayar join at Pahani and from there onwards the valley assumes an average width of half to two kilometre. The valley is fertile as that of the Ganga in pargana Barahsyun. There are many villages here and people are better off than in other areas. The Eastern Nayar joins the Western Nayar near Naugaon. There are *duns* or valleys in almost every hill *patti* through which small rivers flow, taking their rise in the low Garhwal hills, the notable ones being the Chokham and Kohtri *duns* which lie to the west of Patlidun and are much smaller in extent. Each of these *duns* is generally traversed by a forest road down which timber and forest produce pass to the plains and which are also used by the hill villagers for the export of grass and merchandise.

**Bhabhar or Sub-mountainous Tract**—This is a narrow strip of land, about 95 km. in length and not less than 3 km. in width, stretching along the foot of the hills. This tract is waterless as the rivers disappear underground after debouching from the hills, to reappear above the surface some kilometres further south. Cultivation is carried on only by irrigation through canals which tap the river water before it sinks into the ground. At the time of the British occupation in 1815 the *bhabhar* was entirely covered with forest but the remains of a fort and a tank at Mawakot (about 8 km. west of Kotdwara) point to the fact that in the time of the Garhwal rajas, this tract was inhabited, its value apparently being in its grazing grounds and forest produce. There are a few villages just outside the hills below the Patlidun which have been under the plough since the early part of the last century but cultivation in right earnest may be said to have begun only in 1869-70. The forests, which abounded in this area were very gradually cleared and more and more land brought under the plough. Practically the whole of the cultivation in this part of the district is dependent on the canals taken from the Khoh and Malin rivers and other streams.

#### RIVER SYSTEM AND WATER RESOURCES

The chief rivers flowing through the district are the Ganga with its tributaries, namely, the Alaknanda, the Nayar, the Huinl, the Malin; and the Ramganga with its tributary the Mandal. There are several small streams which rise in the lower hills of Garhwal and join these rivers either in this district or in district Bijnor.

**Ganga**—Rising in the Gaumukh glacier in district Uttar Kashi the Ganga first known as the Bhagirathi, assumes the name 'Ganga' after the confluence of the Bhagirathi and the Alaknanda near Devaprayag. (in district Tehri Garhwal). On the opposite side of Devaprayag is Bah where it first touches this district and flows south forming the northern and north-western boundaries of the Garhwal district which it separates from district Tehri Garhwal as far as Lakshaman Jhula. At Byansghat it is joined by the Nayar. From this point it flows almost due west as far as Lakshaman Jhula having received the Huinl river at Phulari. From Lakshaman Jhula it takes a south-westerly course to Hardwar separating the district from district Dehra Dun and then leaves the district.

**Alaknanda**—The Alaknanda rises in district Chamoli and first touches district Garhwal near Sivanandi. It then flows almost due west for about 15 km., separating the district from district Chamoli as far as Rudraprayag. Then turning south-west it flows for about 70 km. from Srinagar to Devaprayag and separates the district from district Tehri Garhwal.

**Nayar**—One of the main tributaries of the Ganga in this district is formed by the confluence at Batkholu (in *patti* Manya-rayum, *pargana* Barahsyun) of the eastern and western branches of the Nayar. The former known as Eastern Nayar, rises in the north-western slopes of the Dodatoli range at an elevation between 2,130 m. and 2,750 m. At first it follows a south-westerly course then a southerly and then a westerly to its confluence with the Western Nayar or Chiphalghat. From there the united stream flows north-west and falls into the Ganga at Byansghat, at an elevation of about 430 m. above sea-level. From their sources to their junction both branches have a rapid fall but below the junction the river forms a succession of deep pools which have an abundance of fish.

The Eastern Nayar flows through *parganas* Chandpur, Malla Salan, Talla Salan and Barahsyun and for a short distance forms the boundary between Chaundkot and Malla Salan. From the junction the united streams form the boundary between *parganas* Ganga Salan and Barahsyun. The streams which unite to form its headwaters near Marwara in *patti* Choprakot are the Syonsi, Khirganga, Landholi, Dumodhyar and Pathargadh. The principal feeders on the right bank are the Musetigadh and Machh-lad, which drain the eastern *pattis* of *pargana* Chandkot and at their junction form the boundary between *pattis* Kalagarh and Gurarsyun. On the left the Eastern Nayar receives first the **Khatalgadh** which rises near Lakhora in district Almora and drains *patti* Khatli and then the Maudi which drains the entire valley of Kurya and the upper portions of Sila. There are some large villages close to the banks of the Eastern Nayar among which are Marwara, Hansuri, in *patti* Choprakot, Chorpala in Walla Khatli, Kalwari in Iniyakot and Kande, Babina and Toli in Malla Badalpur.

The northern branch of the Western Nayar takes its rise near Khand in *patti* Kandarsyun of *pargana* Devalgarh and flowing in a south-westerly direction unites with the southern branch near Paithani in the same *patti*. The latter drains the high lands of *patti* Dhaijyuli and is the more considerable of the two, flowing about 19 km. north-west before reaching the junction. The Western Nayar receives numerous feeders draining the slopes on either side of the tract through which it flows, among them being the Pasin, Kota and Ira streams on the right bank and the Peukul and other minor torrents on the left. Usually in August and September (a favourable time of the year) the river is blocked in many places by weirs, to which are fixed conically shaped baskets arranged to catch the fish coming down with the flood water. The inhabitants along the banks regard fish as one of their staple foods.

**Huinl**—This stream, also known as the Huil or Hinuwal, rises in the ranges of patti Dalralyun, drains the tract to the south and west of the Nayar drainage area and, taking a north-westerly course for about 32 km., turns due west and falls into the Ganga on its left bank at Phulari about 8 km. above where the Ganga debouches into the plain at Rishikesh. There is a large section of irrigated land along its banks wherever the valley widens out.

**Ramganga**—This river, also known as the Western Ramganga, rises in the Dodatoli and running through district Almora enters district Garhwal in the south-eastern part of tahsil Lansdowne near the Gaula where it receives the Mandal. It then flows through the tahsil in an easterly direction as far as its junction with the Palain, about 3 km. north of the Baksar rest house. Turning south-ward and flowing for some kilometres through tahsil Lansdowne, it leaves the district near Kalagarh. The river always contains water and during the rains is a seething torrent, debouching on the plains at Kalagarh.

**Malin**—The river, a tributary of the Ganga, bears this name when it issues from the hills at Chaukighat. In the upper reaches it is known as the Saurgadh, its source being among the ranges to the east of the Saur village in patti Walla Ajmer. It first runs in a westerly direction as far as the village of Ranesa, then takes a southerly direction till it leaves the district near the village of Haldu Khata. It is a river of some historical interest. It has been tentatively identified with the Erineses mentioned about 300 B. C. by the Greek ambassador, Megasthenes ; some 250 years later the poet Kalidasa immortalized the stream in his famous drama, *Abhigyan Shakuntalam*. It was on the banks of the Malin that the king Dushyanta, pursued an antelope to its refuge in the shrine of the rishi Kanva and it was in the forest on the river bank Dushyanta first met Shakuntala, his future queen. Canals have been taken out from the river just below the Chaukighat to irrigate the areas in the bhabar.

**Mandal**—This river, a tributary of the Ramganga, rises on the southern slope of the ranges lying in the eastern parts of patti Talla Badalpur and Painon of pargana Talla Salan and has three main sources. The most westerly, rising near Maraura in Talla Badalpur, takes a south-south-easterly course through Painon and passing the village of Jamri and Dabrya joins, near Jhart, the main branch which rises close by in the eastern declivities of the Dhargaoon range. The third branch drains the eastern part of patti Painon and flowing nearly due south by Badiyargaon and Kotri joins the main stream at Raunderi. The united stream flows nearly due east through patti Painon, Bunga and Bijlot with a course of about 32 km. until it joins the Ramganga on the right bank at the head of the Patlidun above Sarapdhuli. In the dry season the Mandal is a petty stream but becomes torrential during the rains. For the last 15 km. of its course it has a very slight fall. Its water is largely used for irrigation, there being many fine flats along its banks which are highly cultivated. The hills on both sides are covered with sal forests.

## GEOLOGY

Geomorphologically, the district may be divided into four zones : the outermost southern belt of the Siwalik rocks forming the southern hill-rampart of the district; the mountain range of Gankia Danda-Lansdowne-Ghungti belt; the central valley of the Nayar river and its tributaries opening a belt of slate series; and the northern belt of very high mountains of Golikhali-Sountkhal-Dodatoli Dharmalhori Gali, made up of immense pile of crystalline metamorphic and associated granitic rocks.

### Earthquakes

The district falls in a zone liable to heavy damage by earthquakes. Being situated in the Himalayan Boundary Fault Zone of the central Himalayan thrust the district experiences the effect of moderate to great earthquakes occurring there. The important earthquakes experienced in the district were the Kangra earthquake of April 4, 1905, Dharchula earthquake of August 28, 1916, Kapkote earthquake of December 28, 1958, and Kinnaur earthquake of January, 1975. In the seismic map of India (prepared under the auspices of the Indian Standards Institution) district Garhwal has been placed in zone IX, the maximum intensity actually experienced due to past earthquakes having reached VIII on the Modified Mercalli Intensity Scale—1931 (between I, meaning 'not felt' and XII, meaning 'total damage').

### Economic Mineral Deposits

High grade limestone, used in the manufacture of cement, lime, sugar and paper, occurs in the upper Krol formation of the Lakshaman Jhula area and the deposits are mined extensively. Upper Tal limestone, between the Bidasini and Huinl valleys to the east of the Ganga valley, has been found useful for cement making. Limestone is also used as flux in the steel and manganese industries. It is used as a filler in the making of paper, rubber and soap. Most commonly, lime is prepared from this rock.

Lenses and pockets of gypsum occur in the upper Krol limestone of the Lakshaman Jhula area. Dhotra, near Lakshaman Jhula is one of the main sources of gypsum in Uttar Pradesh, which is used mainly for the making of plaster of Paris.

There is a possibility of the occurrence of phosphatic deposits in the lower Tals of the Lakshaman Jhula-Huinl tract in the Ganga valley.

Small sporadic pockets of graphite have been reported from Manseri.

## CLIMATE

A fairly long and moderately severe winter is the chief characteristic of the climate of the district. Being situated on the southern slopes of the Himalayas, it gets a good rainfall from the south-west monsoon current but tropical heat may be experienced from April to May and in the first half of June in the valleys and comparatively lower elevated areas.

The rainy season generally commences from the third week of June and lasts till the end of September. The period from October to middle of November constitutes the post-monsoon season and after which the winter season sets in, which lasts till about the middle of March and is followed by the summer or pre-monsoon season (middle of March to middle of June).

**Rainfall**—Long-term rainfall records are available for five rain-gauge stations, Pauri, Srinagar, Kotdwara, Bironkhal and Lansdowne, as appended at the end of the chapter.

Rainfall in the district has large variations, mainly due to its orography. In the south-western part of the district the annual rainfall is 2,117 mm. at Lansdowne, while at Srinagar in the north, it is as low as 948 mm. Nearly 80 per cent of the annual rainfall is received during the monsoon months (June to September). July and August are the雨iest months when nearly 55 per cent of the annual rainfall in the district occurs. The winter precipitation, from December to February, accounts for nearly 10 per cent of the annual rainfall. There are two rainfall minima, one in April and the other in November. After April, the rainfall gradually increases till June and after that sharply during July and August. It decreases rapidly after the withdrawal of the south-west monsoon in September. During the monsoon, under favourable conditions, spurts of heavy rain may occur in the hills causing inundations of the small tributaries. Precipitation during winter months is often associated with the passage of low pressure systems from the west known as western disturbances, and is sometimes in the form of snowfalls, particularly at higher elevations. Precipitation during the pre-monsoon months is mostly associated with thunderstorms.

The year to year variation of rainfall in the district as a whole is not very appreciable. In the fifty-year period 1901 to 1950, the district recorded the highest rainfall in 1917 and the lowest in 1918. The frequency of annual rainfall in the district in various ranges is given in the following statement :

Range in mm.	No. of years	Range in mm.	No. of years
901—1,000	3	1,601—1,700	6
1,001—1,100	2	1,701—1,800	2
1,101—1,200	3	1,801—1,900	1
1,201—1,300	8	1,901—2,000	3
1,301—1,400	6	2,001—2,100	2
1,401—1,500	10	2,101—2,200	1
1,501—1,600	3		

The average number of rainy days (days having rainfall of 2.5 mm. or more) varies from 59 at Srinagar to 83 at Lansdowne.

The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours recorded at any station in the district was 349.0 mm. at Kotdwara on August 27, 1892.

**Temperature**—There being no meteorological observatory in the district, the description that follows is based on records of observatory stations in the surrounding districts having similar climatic conditions.

The temperature varies considerably from place to place depending on the elevation. Generally the end of May or the beginning of June is the hottest period. The mean daily maximum temperature in the valleys (with elevation less than 1,000 m.) is around 36° C. in the month of May and around 26° C. at about 2,000 m. and still lower at higher altitudes. On individual days the maximum temperature may rise to over 40° C. in the valleys and to about 34° C. at 2,000 m. in the month of May. With the onset of the monsoon, the day temperatures fall by about 3° C. to 5° C. With its withdrawal by the end of September, both day and night temperatures start falling, reaching the lowest values in January. The mean daily maximum and minimum temperatures in January in the valleys at the elevation of less than 1,000 m. are of the order of 19° C. and 6° C. at the elevation of 2,000 m. During the winter months cold waves, associated with western disturbances may bring night temperatures down appreciably, even to below the freezing point of water on some occasions.

**Humidity**—Summer (March to May) is the driest part of the year with relative humidity between 30 to 40 per cent. During the monsoon season (from June to September) the humidity attains a value of about 70 to 90 per cent while it remains between 50 to 60 per cent during the remaining parts of the year.

**Clouds**—In the monsoon months from July to September, skies are generally heavily clouded. Heavy clouding also persists in short spells during the winter months when the district is affected by passing western disturbances.

**Winds**—Winds are generally light, of the order of 3 to 4 km. per hour in the valleys and 5 to 8 km. per hour at elevations about 2,000 m. above sea-level and increase in velocity in the higher altitudes. In the wake of western disturbances and in association with thunderstorms, they may become quite strong. Strong katabatic winds may also be experienced during the night as local effects produced by the nature of the terrain.

**Special Weather Phenomena**—Thunderstorms occur throughout the year, their frequency being the least in November and December. Their activity is greatest during the period from May to September and during winter and the pre-monsoon months they are sometimes accompanied by hail. Dust-storms are rare and occur, if at all, in the valleys in summer. Fog is

common during the monsoon months and it may also occur in association with western disturbances. Morning fog may occur in the valleys frequently in winter.

### FLORA

The flora of the district includes the vast range found in the Himalayas, varying from the sub-tropical species growing in the outer range of low hills and the *bhabhar* tract, to the temperate species growing in the higher altitude in the north. Till the beginning of the last quarter of the 19th century the forests of the district had been neglected. Certain tracts were seriously prejudiced by the absence of adjacent forests from which people could procure wood for building, agricultural implements fuel, etc. Indiscriminate fellings in the past also resulted in denudation of hill sides and consequent land-slips. They also suffered greatly by the extension of cultivation which led to extensive deforestation. In the beginning of the present century the parganas of Chaundkot and Barahsyun were a thickly populated and intensely cultivated belt of the district but the pasture for cattle and wood for fuel and building was greatly in deficit. The Nayar valley (lying to the south of the parganas of Chaundkot and Barahsyun was covered, for the most part, with a prolific bush jungle and supplied the neighbouring villages with fuel and, to a certain extent, timber. The pressure of population here found its outlet in what is known as *khail*, an intermittent form of cultivation which consisted in roughly clearing the forests and sowing the land so exposed without terracing or otherwise protecting it and then abandoning it after a crop or two has been taken, the operation being repeated in another forest block. Thus a steep hillside is stripped of its protection against the weather, land-slips destroy the hillsides and any fertile riverain land and much useful fuel is wasted. This type of cultivation has long been prohibited in the district. Owing to the scanty population and unhealthy climate in the southern tract of the district, there was reckless extension of cultivation into the forest areas which occurred in the northern portion of the district. Similarly the forests of the Dodatoli and Dhanpur ranges in the north of parganas Chaundkot and Barahsyun remaind mostly unaffected as they were mostly on a higher altitude for cultivation. The southern forests were transferred to the forest department in 1878 and the remainder were left under the district administration (and were called district forests). Since the forest settlement of 1911-17, a part of the district forests was declared to be reserved forest. As a result of the Kumaon forest grievances committee recommendations about 26,330 ha. of reserved forest ceased to be reserved in 1921. In 1964 about 35,200 ha. of district forests were vested in the forest department.

The forest area of the district comprises the whole of the Garhwal and Lansdowne forest divisions and the greater part of the Kalagarh forest division. The area of the forests in the district under the department is about 2,46,347 ha. of which an area of 89,011 ha. lies in the Garhwal forest division, 35,150 ha. in

the Lansdowne forest division and 92,086 ha. in the Kalagarh forest division. The civil or district forests occur in strips around *abadi* sites and their exact area is not known.

The forests in the district extend from about 250 m. to over 3,000 m. above sea-level and may be divided into three main altitudinal floristic divisions, the outer foot-hill forests, the warm temperate forests and the cool temperate forests.

### Outer Foot-hill Forests

These forests occur between the altitudes of 250 m. to 1,100 m., sal being the dominant species often growing by itself or with a small admixture of its common associates *asna* (*Terminalia altavar*, *T. tomentosa*), *haldu* (*Adina cardifolia*) and *dhauri* (*Lagerstroemia speciosa*). The extensive sal forests are interrupted by grassy patches in flat lowlying pockets, strips of as riverain forests and tracts of miscellaneous forests. These forests are of the following main types and are described briefly below.

**Riverain Forests**—These forests are chiefly composed of *sissoo* (*shisham-Dalbergia sissoo*) which occurs pure or mixed with *khair* (*Acacia catechu*), *ber* (*Zizyphus* spp.), *kanju*, *ehretia* and *semal* (*Salmalia malaborica*). Among grasses are *kans* (*Saccharum spontaneum*) *munj* (*Succharum munja*), *sui* (*Aristida cyanantha*), *Arundonone*, *fragmites* and *Typha elephantina*. The common shrubs growing here are *rohini*, *Adhatoda vasica*, *Murraya koenigii*, *Pogostemon* spp., *Lantana* spp. (causal), *Pulranjiva* spp. and *jhau* (*tamarix*).

**Plain Miscellaneous Forests**—The common species found in these forests are *khair*, *semal*, *dhak*, *sissoo*, *kanju* and *ber* at lower altitudes and *jamun* (*Syzygium umini*), *pyaman*, *kaula* (*Macholus odoratissime*), *pabal*, *quitel* (*Trewia nudiflora*), *Jhingan* (*Lannea arandis*), *siris* (*Albizia* species), *bahera* (*Terminalia belerica*) *pula*, *chila* and *amaltas* (*Cassia fistula*). The undergrowth consists of *Colebrookia murraya*, *Glycosmis helicteres* and *Citrus medica*.

**Bhabar Forests**—The Common plants found in these forests are *haldu*, *kusum* (*Sohleishera oleosa*), *phaldu* (*Mytragyna parvifolia*), *khumbhi* (*Ca'eya urborea*), *dhauri*, *saonjna* (*Moringa ptery gosperma*), *Wrightia tomentosa* and *Litsala Polyaltha*. The undergrowth consists of *Milletia anculter* and *Clerodendron infortunatum*. The common grasses are *dub* (*Desmostachya bipinnata*) *khas* (*Vetiveria zizanioides*), *siru* (*Imperata cylindrica*) and *Neyraundia arundinacea*.

**Hill Forests**—The species growing in these forests is the *sal* with its chief associates the *sain* (*Asna*), *dhauri*, *bakli*, *sandan* (*Ougenia dalbergioides*), *bhalawa* (*Semecarpus anacardium*), *kathhalawa* (*Buchanania latifolia*), *harra* (*Terminalia chebula*), *cheura* (*Bassia butyracea*) and *Bassia latifolia*, Bamboo (*Dendrocalamus*

*strictus*) is a very common undergrowth. Less common are *Bischofia javanica*, *Engelhardtia colerookiana*, *Ardisia humilis*, *Calicarpa mecopuilla* and *Bochmeria rugulosa*. On higher slopes *Woodfordia fruticosa* and *Indigofera* (species) are common. The common grasses are *baib* (*Eulaliopsis binata*), *kumeria* (*Heteropogon contortus*) and *goria* (*Chrysopogon montana*). At its higher reaches *sal* is closely associated with *chir* (*Pinus roxburghii*) forming two-storeyed forests with *chir* in the top canopy and *sal* in the lower storey. A very rare and peculiar admixture of *sal* and a moist temperate species, *banj* (*Quercus incana*), *Acer oblongum* and *Machilus adoratissima* occurs along with associates

*banj* at an elevation of about 850 m. at Rathuwadhat in the Adnala range of the Kalagarh forest division in cold moist valleys on its northern slopes where the *banj* is coming up profusely in natural regeneration.

### Warm Temperate Forests

Between the altitudes of 1,000 m. and 2,000 m. the dominant species is the *chir* (*Pinus roxburghii*). There is hardly any undergrowth except for some casual *Rubus berberis* and *indigofera* shrubs. The vast *chir* expanses are broken up by pockets of *banj* oak on the moist river banks and in the cool northern aspects. *Burans* (*Rhododendron arboreum*) and *ayar* (*Pieris ovalifolia*) are the two common associates of *banj* oak which descends casually even below the *chir* zone in moist shady localities and also extends far above the higher reaches of the *chir*, where its common associates are *hill toon* (*Cedrela serrata*), *pangar* (*Aesculus indica*), bird cherry, walnut and *Acer* (species). At about 2,300 m. or even 2,000 m. in cool aspects, *banj*, occurs with *moru* oak (*Quercus dilatata*).

### Cool Temperate Forests

सत्यमेव जयते

Between the altitudes of 2,650 m. and 3,350 m., the oak gives place to *kharsu* (*Quercus semecarpifolia*) which occurs mixed with the high level pines such as silver fir and spruce. In the nullahs the common species are *alder* (*Alnus nitida*) and *elms* (*Ulmus willichiana*).

In order to replenish and even to supplement the growing stock of valuable timber, species of industrially important plantations of *khair*, *sissoo*, *haldu*, *semal* *siris* (*Cedrela toona*) *toon* and mulberry have been raised in the *bhabar* and *walnut*, *chestnut*, *chir*, *cypress*, *bird cherry*, *maple ash*, *cypress* and *willows* in the hills. By doing silvicultural, thinnings in the commercially important species, such as *sal*, *sissoo*, *khair*, *chir* and *firs*, the adverse competition amongst trees is eliminated and the natural phenomenon of the survival of the fittest is implemented in order to create optimum growing conditions. Methods of control are applied in exploiting the number of mature trees in order to ensure a sustained yield of such trees. As a measure of strict fire control, the vegetation is preserved and noteworthy feature is

that the vegetation zones are ascending, sal extending higher than its original upper limits and chir, oak and their associates also doing likewise.

## FAUNA

From times immemorial the district has been the habitat of a large variety of mammals, birds, reptiles and fish. Among animals the elephant was once found in its wild state in the Garhwal *bhabar* and formerly considerable herds of elephants used to range the *bhabar* forests, particularly near about Patildun but the depredations of the Balrampur, Kheddah thinned their numbers so drastically that the practice was discontinued from 1903. As a result the population of wild elephants has increased, especially in the Lansdowne forest division.

Tiger (*Panthera tigris*) is fairly common in the *bhabar* and is found up to about 3,000 m. The panther (*Panthera pardus*), which is common throughout the district, is very troublesome. The snow leopard (*Panthera uncia*) occurs (but rarely) in upper Garhwal. The hyaena (*Hyaena pinnacus*) is scarce and is called *here charak*. The common sloth bear (*Ursus labiatus*) is found in the *bhabar* and lower hills. The black Himalayan bear (*Ursus tibetanus* or *torquatus*) is very common, occurring down to about 1,000 m. and in the cold weather being found even in the *bhabar*. A good tree climber and fond of honey and the millet (*mandua*), it feeds on acorn and other jungle fruit and occasionally is even carnivorous. It is rarely seen except in the rains and not infrequently kills cattle, sheep and goats. Jungle cats of many kinds are common. The wild dog is not uncommon in the Dodatoli and some other places. The jackal (*Carris auricus*) is found almost everywhere. The mountain fox here has a good thick fur. The *cutraila* or pine martin and *od* or otter cause much destruction in small game. The monkeys of Garhwal are the Himalayan langur (*Poesvitis antellus*) and the ordinary monkey of the plains. The blue bull (*Boselaphus tragocamelus*) is found chiefly in the *bhabar* tract.

Among the deer tribe the sambar is the most widely distributed. It is found in the *bhabar* and in the hills (where it is called *jarao*) up to 3,000 m. The hill sambar is much heavier than his plains counterpart and has very heavy horns. It is not very easily found as its home is in the middle of dense forests. The chital or spotted deer is the commonest of all its tribe and is found only in the submontane forests and occurs in herds of 60 or 80. The swamp deer (*gon*) and the hog deer (*parha*) are occasionally found by the river banks in the *bhabar*, the former now being almost extinct. The barking deer (*kakar*) is about a metre high, of a bright chestnut colour, with forked horns rising from large pedicles. It derives its name from its cry, which is like the bark of a dog and is usually heard in the morning or the evening.

of Hurrychow (in China) were brought to these plantations to further the development of the cultivation of tea. A government factory was started at Gadoli. The biggest private tea estate was at Gwaldam and smaller ones at Museti, Beni Tal and Silket. But because of the scarcity of cultivable land in Garhwal where it was essential to plant food crops in every available hectare, the difficulties of transport, the central Asian market not being captured, the heavy Russian import duties on Indian tea and the monopoly of the tea trade being in the hands of those who were interested in the sale of Chinese tea, the high hopes of the tea industry of the hills becoming a flourishing enterprise did not materialise and by the forties of the present century the industry had almost disappeared.

Some details about the areas covered by the major food and non-food crops in the district in 1951, 1961 and 1971 are given below :

Type of crop	Area (in ha.)		
	1951	1961	1971
<b>Food Crops</b>			
Paddy	88.2	88.2	35
Wheat	107.2	107.2	63
Barley	101.5	101.5	7
Maize	5.6	5.6	2
Mandua	97.5	97.5	42
Fruit and vegetable other than potato			
Potato	0.40	0.40	7
Potato	—	0.80	0.4
Other food Crops	24.5	22.6	2
<b>Non-food Crops</b>			
Oil-seeds	4.0	4.8	4
Hemp	0.2	0.2	0.1
Tobacco	0.8	0.80	0.8
Other non-food crops	0.2	0.40	0.3

### Improvement of Agriculture

The necessity of augmenting agricultural production was realised during the course of the Second World War. As a remedial measure the government launched a grow more food campaign providing several incentives to increase farm output. But

species came to the verge of extinction. In order to protect wild life from further ravages, a number of Acts such as Wild Elephant Preservation Act, 1879, the Wild Birds and Animal Protection Act, 1912, the Indian Forest Act, 1927, the Wild Birds and Animal Protection U. P. Amendment Act, 1934, the U. P. Private Forest Act, 1948, and the Indian Forest Act, 1951 were enforced in this district, as elsewhere in the State.

The game laws obtaining in the district are governed by the Wild Life Protection Act, 1972, which imposes a total ban on the shooting of such species as the tiger and leopard, etc., which have become extinct or are close to extinction. Rules and regulations pertaining to hunting and shooting are periodically published in various manuals and other types of literature of the forest department of the State. Permission for big game shooting in the district is issued by the forest officers.

The Gohari range in the Lansdowne forest division has been closed for shooting for three years as a first step towards making it a wild life sanctuary.



## STATEMENT

## Rainfall

(Based on available data up to 1970)

Reference Page No. 9

## Normal rainfall

Station	Years on which data are based	Normal rainfall						Extreme rainfall											
		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Lowest annual rainfall as % of normal year	Highest annual rainfall as % of normal year	Lowest annual rainfall as % of normal year	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours *	Date	Amount (mm)
Pauri	50 a	60.7	66.8	55.1	32.0	51.6	132.3	326.1	359.9	148.3	33.8	8.1	282	302.9	175	52	177.8	1880, September	18
	b	4.4	4.5	4.1	2.9	5.0	8.3	16.9	17.2	8.4	1.8	0.7	1.8	76.0	—	—	—	—	—
Srinagar	50 a	55.1	56.1	36.8	22.1	42.7	118.4	244.1	223.3	97.3	24.9	5.6	21.8	948.2	152	59	190.5	1880, September	18
	b	3.9	4.0	2.9	2.3	3.7	7.2	13.3	12.4	6.3	1.3	0.5	1.4	59.2	—	—	—	—	—
Kotdwara	50 a	41.9	46.0	21.6	15.5	25.4	172.5	557.0	541.8	249.7	37.1	6.3	15.2	1,730.0	154	54	349.0	1892, August	27
	b	2.6	2.9	2.0	1.5	2.0	7.3	18.2	17.5	9.0	1.4	0.4	1.1	65.9	—	—	—	—	—
Biron- khal	50 a	63.0	71.6	43.9	30.5	63.0	165.9	315.5	263.9	151.6	36.6	5.1	27.2	1,217.8	169	63	255.3	1924, September	29
Lans- downe	a	66.8	73.1	45.0	28.5	53.1	201.9	626.4	627.9	316.0	44.5	6.1	27.2	2,116.5	155	53	323.1	1924, September	29
	b	3.5	3.9	3.4	2.3	3.7	8.7	24.4	21.7	11.4	1.6	0.5	1.5	83.6	—	—	—	—	—

(a) Normal rainfall in mm.

(b) Average No. of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more)

\*Based on all available data up to 1970

## CHAPTER II

### HISTORY

#### ANCIENT PERIOD

The early traditional history of the district of Garhwal is not without interest. It is situated in what has been described in ancient Indian literature as 'Upagiri', the outer ranges of the mid-Himalayan mountains, which comprises lowlying peaks rising contiguously with the plains of northern India.<sup>1</sup> The region of which this district forms a part has also been named Kedara Khanda, which has always been regarded by Hindus as the region of Kedarnath, that is Siva, and has been looked upon with reverence almost from the earliest times in its history.<sup>2</sup> Every hill, river and temple of the district is reverently regarded and dedicated to one or other member of the greater Hindu pantheon. Legends of the gods, saints and holy men are associated with almost each peak, lake and waterfall.<sup>3</sup>

The district has also been associated with some mythological personalities mentioned in Brahmanical literature. Srinagar is associated with Satyasandha, a ruler in Satayuga, who invoked the goddess Durga to grant him power to kill the demon Kolasur. His request was granted and the place where *Sriyantra*, the weapon used in its destruction, was lodged was called Srikshetra which gradually became Srinagar. The site where kolasur was killed is said to be the village Kulasur<sup>4</sup> (in tahsil Pauri). Srinagar is also believed to be the site of the disillusionment of Narada, the great sage who, being lured by the charm of Muni Shilanidhi's daughter, had yearned to marry her, his desire remaining unfulfilled.<sup>5</sup>

Traditional stories and names of places, sometimes corrupt in form, indicate that since primitive times the region including this district was inhabited, the earliest known inhabitants being the Yakshas. Ancient Indian literature contains numerous references to Kubera, who was their king.<sup>6</sup> The memory of the association of the Yakshas with this area lingers in a number of place names in the district such as Jakhan, Jakholi, Jakheti, etc. The Nagas were also connected with this region and the Alaknanda valley, the lower regions of which were most possibly known as Nagaloka.<sup>7</sup> The presence of Naga toks (shrines) and the apparent prevalence of Naga worship performed in most of the villages of the district even now are reminiscent of the Naga elements in the history of the region's civilization.

1. *Mahabharata*, Sabha-parva, Ch. 27/3

2. Raturi, H. K. : *Garhwal Ka Itihasa*, p. 1

3. Atkinson, E. T. : *The Himalayan Districts of the North-Western Provinces of India*, Vol. II, p. 271

4. Bhakt Darshan : *Garhwal Ki Divangat Vibhutiyen*, n. 24

5. *Ibid.*

6. Barthwal, M.S. : *Garhwal Me Kaun Kahan*, p. 10

7. Sankratyayana, R. : *Kumaon*, pp. 25-26

The pre-Aryan people in this region were those usually known by the generic name Asuras, also referred to as Dasyus or Dasas in Vedic literature. They opposed and gave fight to the Aryan invaders at every step. Their king, Shambara, a formidable opponent of the early Aryans, had great hold on Garhwal and Kumaon. He fought with Sudas, the Bharata king of the Tritu family for about forty years, which is alluded to in a number of places in the *Rigveda*.<sup>1</sup>

The Aryans looked upon the Himalayan region with great reverence. The sanctity of this place also attracted Rama, the famous Aryan king of Kosala. It is said that he visited Srinagar for a few days and offered a thousand lotus flowers to Siva for expiating his sin in killing the Rakshasa king, Ravana<sup>2</sup>, who was a veteran devotee of Siva himself, at the shrine called Kamleshvara.<sup>3</sup>

A number of ancient Kshatriya kings of the plains seem to have tried to extend their authority over these parts. It was perhaps Arjuna, the third Pandava prince, who during the course of a Rajasuya Yajna (sacrifice), performed by his eldest brother, Yudhishthira, as king of Indraprastha,<sup>4</sup> subjugated the hill kings and annexed the Himalayan region. The Kiratas, the Kunindas or Kulindas, etc., stated in the *Mahabharata* to have subjugated the older inhabitants and made them serfs inhabitated the Terai region. The rulers of the subjugated kingdoms are said to have presented gold dust, clothes of different kinds and a conch having mystic powers to Yudhishthira in token of their allegiance to him.<sup>5</sup> When the Pandavas had lost their dominion by staking it in a gambling match with their cousins, the Kauravas, and were forced to go into exile for thirteen years and to spend the last year incognito<sup>6</sup>, they had also sojourned for sometime at Sripura<sup>7</sup> in Garhwal which is identified with Srinagar, the capital of Subahu the lord of Kulin-davishaya, who accorded them a cordial welcome.<sup>8</sup> Even after completing the period of exile the Pandavas were not given their share in the kingdom and were supposedly forced to fight the battle of the *Mahabharata* for their claim in 1400 B. C.<sup>9</sup> In the war Subahu with his three sons, sided with the Pandavas and helped them in achieving victory.<sup>10</sup> The Pandavas appear to have restrained their supremacy over this area and Subahu's descendants ruled here as tributaries of the kings of Hastinapur. Janamejaya, the great grandson of Arjuna, drove the Nagas out of the plains in order to avenge his father Parikshit's death which was caused

1. Rapson, E. J. : The Cambridge History of India, Vol. I, p. 73, Pandey, B. : Kumaon Ka Itihas, p. 57, Macdonell, A. A. and Keith, A. B. : Vedic Index of Names and Subjects, Vol. I, p. 363

2. Bhakt Darshan; *op. cit.*, p. 25

3. *Ibid.*

4. *Mahabharata*, Sabha-parva, Ch. 26/3

5. *Ibid.*, Ch. 25/1-7

6. *Mahabharata*, Sabha-parva, Ch. 76/21-24. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D. (Ed.) : *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. I, p. 305

7. *Mahabharata*, Vana-parva, Ch. 140/24-29

8. *Ibid.*

9. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, pp. 304, 306

10. *Mahabharata*, Karna-parva, Ch. 85/4

by the Nagas. The Nagas took refuge in the hills and strengthened their position. It was probably at this time that the nominal sway of the Kurus ended in these parts<sup>1</sup>

In course of time, in all probability, the Kulindas were replaced by the Kiratas after whom the region came to be called Kiratamandala. Another subsequently important tribe of the district was the Khasa, which originally penetrated these parts from the west, overpowered the old inhabitants in the 6th or 5th century B. C.<sup>2</sup> and gradually gained prominence in the district. They professed to be Rajputs who had given up their honourable position in society because they could not observe strictly the ceremonial usages of their religion due to their living in a far off region and a different climate.<sup>3</sup> They established a number of petty Khasa chieftainships after which the region was called Khasamandala.<sup>4</sup> They adopted the Buddhist religion generally and during their reign Garhwal achieved great prosperity.<sup>5</sup> They apparently maintained their independence and were in power at the advent of Chandragupta Maurya (c. 321—297 B. C.)<sup>6</sup>, whom they helped in defeating the Nandas and in ascending the throne of Patliputra.<sup>7</sup> During his rule over Magadha, they formed a prominent section of his army and achieved great fame in fighting,<sup>8</sup> an indication that this district formed part of the Mauryan empire. This fact is confirmed by the inscription on the major rock edict of Asoka at Kalsi in district Dehra Dun on the western border of district Garhwal. A Buddhist mission was sent to propagate Buddhism in these regions during the reign of Asoka.<sup>9</sup>

For about a couple of centuries after the downfall of the Mauryas the district remained free from the control of any suzerain power from the plains. For sometime the Yavanas (the Greeks) exercised political influence over the region, including the area covered by this district. But they were soon driven away by Amoghbhuti, the powerful Kulinda king who had consolidated his power in the Himalayan region, as is evident from the one thousand silver coins of his reign, discovered in Sumarigaon near Srinagar and other places near this district. The abundance of coins also goes to show that there was peace and prosperity during his reign. His descendants were unable to defend their kingdom against foreign invaders.<sup>10</sup> In the beginning of the second quarter of the first century B. C., the Sakas, who belonged to the same stock as the Khasas and had certain affinities with them,<sup>11</sup> invaded India from the north-west and probably penetrated the Himalayan tracts including this district and established a satrapy here. A few coins bearing the names of Haridatta, Shivpalita

1. Sankratyayana, op. cit., pp. 25-26; Bahadur, Ral, P.R. : *Garhwal Ancient and Modern*, pp. 71-72
2. Raturi, op. cit., pp. 267-68
3. Walton, H. C. : *British Garhwal-A Gazetteer*, p. 112
4. Raturi, op. cit., pp. 267-68
5. *Ibid.*, p. 313; Barthwal, op. cit., p. 11
6. Bahadur, op. cit., p. 175
7. Sastri, K.A.N. : *Age of the Nandas and Mauryas*, pp. 146-47
8. Raychaudhuri, H.C. : *Political History of India*, p. 269
9. Sastri, op. cit., pp. 216-17
10. Dabral, S.P. : *Uttarakhand Ka Itihasa*, Vol. III, pp. 169, 263
11. Sankratyayana, op. cit., pp. 32-34

and Sivadatta, discovered in this region<sup>1</sup> and assigned to the first century A.D., establish that these rulers might have been the local Kulinda or Khasa chiefs or that the Sakas acted as satraps of the Indo-Scythian or Indo-Parthian monarchs of north-west India. In the last quarter of the first century A.D. this area, of which the district formed a part, came under the domination of the Kushanas whose empire covered the western and central Himalayas as far as Tibet. During the reign of Kanishka (c. 78—104 A.D.) Buddhism seems to have gained a fresh impetus in the Himalayas. Foreign writers of the period like Pliny and Ptolemy mention the region under the name of Tanganoi, a term derived from the name of the Tangan tribes of this area and its inhabitants as being Khasas and Kiratas.<sup>2</sup>

After the disintegration of the Kushana empire in the second quarter of the third century A.D.,<sup>3</sup> a number of Saka-Kushanas, including members of the royal family, took refuge in this area.<sup>4</sup> An inscription discovered at Jagatgram, on the left bank of the Yamuna opposite Kalsi, describes Shilavarman (assigned to the third century A.D.) as 'the Lord of the Mountain'. It also mentions that he performed an Ashwamedha sacrifice. The greater part of the Garhwal region seems to have been under his domination.<sup>5</sup>

About the close of the third or the beginning of the fourth century A.D., Vasudeva, probably of Saka-Khasa descent, allegedly set up a small principality in this region.<sup>6</sup> According to tradition, the founder of the earliest known historical dynasty of these parts was Vasudeva of the Katyuri dynasty. The connection between the Katyuris and the Sakas is evident from the use of the Saka era, the worship of the god Surya, by the Katyuris, because Kartikeya was regarded as their family deity and the commencement of the genealogical lists of the Katyuris with Salivahana, the great Saka king, after whom the capital city was named Kartikeyapura.<sup>7</sup> The Katyuri dynasty gradually came to be regarded as the indigenous ruling family of the region. It continued to rule over this district till subdued by the emperor Samudragupta about the middle of the fourth century A.D.<sup>8</sup>

The Chinese pilgrim, Huien Tsang, visited in 635, the Himalayan kingdom of the name of Brahmapura, the capital probably also having the same name. He called it Po-lo-hih-no-pu-lo and described it as having a circumference of 4,000 li (1,067 km.) with mountains on all sides.<sup>9</sup> Presumably this kingdom covered a major

1. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D. (Ed.): *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. II, p. 161
2. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 352-56
3. Majumdar, R.C. and Pusalker, A.D. (Ed.): *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. III p. 54
4. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 151
5. *Indian Archaeology*, 1953-54-A Review, pp. 10-11
6. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 151
7. Sankratayayana, *op. cit.*, pp. 33-34; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, pp. 383, 467-68; Tamrapatras from Pandukeshwar Temple: Raturi, *op. cit.*, pp. 288-305
8. Tripathi, R.S. : *History of Ancient India*, pp. 243-244; Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. III, pp. 8, 12
9. Watters, T. : *On Yuan Chwang's Travels in India*, Vol. I, p. 329; Vol. II, p. 338

portion of the present Kumaon and Garhwal regions. According to one view Brahmapura lay in Garhwall<sup>1</sup> and possibly was the area covered by the forest near Lachhmanjhula. No ancient relics are found here but there is a mound across the Ganga where signs of an ancient habitation are found.<sup>2</sup>

The death of Harsha in 647 marked the beginning of a period of anarchy and unrest in the whole of northern India. The intrusions by the Tibetan kings became a recurring feature.<sup>3</sup> The Garhwal region was divided into a number of principalities governed by petty local chiefs. A number of fortresses or 'mal'<sup>4</sup> castles are scattered all over this region. Parasugarh, Baghgarh and Devalgarh are located in this district. The chiefs used to fight among themselves and no single ruler is known to have had his seat of government within the district.<sup>5</sup> In the 7th and 8th centuries the Katyuri rulers had developed a powerful kingdom with its out-post at or near present Joshimath.<sup>6</sup> (in Chamoli district). The details of this dynasty have come to light through an inscription engraved in the southern part of a Siva temple at Bageshwar (in district Almora) which mentions three grants made by three kings in favour of the god Vyaghresvara. The defective nature of the transcript makes it difficult to be definite about the names of two kings in the first and probably the earliest charter, the first name being read as Basantadeva and the second being illegible. Basantadeva seems to be identical with Basantideva, who figures in all the existing genealogical lists of the Katyuris, the 21st in the Doti list and the 32nd in the Askot list in descent from Salivahana.<sup>7</sup> One of these two rulers may have founded the Joshimath branch of the Katyuris near about 650. It appears that the kingdom was split up in the time of Basantideva's son. The main line continued in the Katyuri valley in district Almora while the other ruled almost independently at the new capital of Karttikeyapura near Joshimath. The names of the kings in the second charter, who seem to have succeeded those mentioned in the first, have been read as Kharparadeva, his son, Kalyanarajadeva and the latter's son, Tribhuvanarajadeva. It is not known if Kharparadeva was a direct descendant of Basantideva or a usurper of his throne but he was one of those brave kings who inflicted a crushing defeat on the Tibetans in 704. These three kings apparently ruled in succession during the greater part of the 8th century. The third charter (grant) refers to four generations of kings in the last decade of the 8th century—Nimbati, perhaps the founder of the line, Ishtaganadeva, Lalitasuradeva and Bhudeva, the donor of this grant.<sup>7</sup>

During the reign of Ishtaganadeva, Shankaracharya, the famous Hindu philosopher (c. 788 to 820) and a renowned scholar of the Vedanta, visited this district in the course of his pilgrimage of this region. He is said to have attained enlightenment in this

1. Cunningham, A. : *The Ancient Geography of India*, p. 300

2. Raturi, *op. cit.*, p. 333

3. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 471; Majumdar, R.C. and Pusalker, A. D. (Ed.) : *History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. IV, pp. 122-23

4. Raturi, *op. cit.*, p. 322; Barthawal, *op. cit.*, p. 11; Bhakt Darshan, *op. cit.*, p. 4

5. Bahadur, *op. cit.*, p. 185

6. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 122

7. *Ibid.*

region and to have brought about a change in the religious beliefs and practices of the local people as he had done elsewhere in the course of his mission for the revival of the Hindu religion as it prevailed prior to the Buddha. He is also credited with having prohibited human sacrifice at Srinagar.<sup>1</sup> Lalitasuradeva as also known from two copperplate grants preserved in the temple of Yogabadri at Pandukeshwar, issued in the 21st or 22nd year of his reign corresponding to 853 and 854 according to which his reign commenced in 832. Somadevi was his queen who was probably instrumental in issuing one of the grants. Both he and his father were endowed with the titles of *Paramabhattaraka*, *Maharajadhiraja* and *Parameshvara*<sup>2</sup>. Lalitasuradeva's inscription throws light on the cultural, political and economic conditions of the people of this region and their extensive cultural contacts with the neighbouring rulers. Bhudeva ruled from 954 to probably the end of the 10th century. Nothing is known about the immediate successors of Bhudeva which suggests another dynastic change after him. The founder of the new dynasty was Salonaditya, which is also confirmed by the text of the copperplate grant preserved in the temple at Baleshwar (in district Almora) which was issued from Karttikeyapura by Deshatadeva, son of Ichchhatadeva, and the grandson of Salonaditya, in his 5th regnal year. Deshatadeva patronised the learned Brahmanas in his court and is described as a mighty conqueror. His son, Padmatadeva, was also a powerful king. Two copperplate grants preserved in the temple of Pandukeshwar, one issued in the 25th regnal year of Padmatadeva and the other issued in the 4th regnal year of Subhikshrajyadeva, Padmatadeva's son, who probably founded a new city known as Subhikshapura in the vicinity of the old capital or who may have simply renamed the old place.<sup>3</sup> Sometime in the latter half of the 12th century his successors abandoned the capital near Joshimath and moved to the Katyuri valley in the Almora district.<sup>4</sup>

The inscriptions of the Katyuri kings are written in the Kutila script in good Sanskrit couched in the classical eulogistic style.<sup>5</sup> Their text shows that the Katyuri state was well-organised, powerful and flourishing. It was extensive and dominated the entire Kumaon-Garhwal region.<sup>6</sup> Different classes of nobles and high dignitaries and several grades of feudatories existed in the kingdom.<sup>7</sup> Marked similarities of language, style and content between the Katyuri grants and those of several monarchs in the plains, particularly the Pala kings of Bihar, have been noticed<sup>8</sup>, although from the 9th to the 12th centuries the rulers in the plains did not exercise any influence over these parts, which were ruled by the Katyuri kings who were devotees of various gods and Brahmanas and who compared themselves with Pauranic heroes like Prithu.<sup>9</sup>

1. Bahadur, *op. cit.*, pp. 157-58; Pandey, *op. cit.*, pp. 160-169

2. Majundar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, pp. 122-23

3. Majundar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 123; Dabral, *op. cit.*, pp. 456-61

4. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 493-94

5. *Ibid.*, p. 478

6. Sankratyayana, *op. cit.*, pp. 27, 39

7. *Ibid.*, pp. 39-45

8. *Ibid.*, p. 43; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 488-492

9. Sankratyayana, *op. cit.*, pp. 39-41

In the ninth century an important dynastic change took place in the Kshatriya kingdom of Chandpur (in district Chamoli) which affected the subsequent history of the entire Garhwal region. The origin of this dynasty is known chiefly from traditional lore which is often conflicting and confusing. The only name of ruler available is Bhanupratapa, who had no son. His daughter was given in marriage to a Paramara Rajput prince, Kanakpal of Malva, who had come to this mountainous region on pilgrimage.<sup>1</sup> He succeeded his father-in-law in 888,<sup>2</sup> and founded the Panwar dynasty of Chandpur which was known to have ruled the present district of Garhwal in the time of its 37th descendant, Ajaipal.<sup>3</sup> It appears that some rulers of the line down to Bhogatipal (who flourished about the latter half of the 11th century) were merely minor feudatories of the Katyuri kings of Joshimath. The term 'rajaputra' (Rajput) of the Katyuri grants may have been used for them. With the decline of the power of the Katyuris of Joshimath, the line of Kanakpal went on gaining power but not to the extent of making a bid for independence. In the latter half of the 12th century Vikrampal, the 21st ruler of this line, who was probably a contemporary of the Katyuri king, Viradeva of Joshimath, secured for himself an honoured place among the 52 fort owners (*garhpals*) after whom the entire region, including the present district of Chamoli, came to be known as Pauri Garhwal.<sup>4</sup> The domains and influence of the Panwars went on expanding till Ajaipal could establish his sovereignty over the entire Garhwal region.

#### MEDIEVAL PERIOD

With the accession of Ajaipal (1358—1370), the 12th in succession from Kadilpal, the history of Garhwal begins to crystallise with some degree of authenticity. Almost all the genealogical lists of the Pala dynasty bear his name and some of them even begin with him as the first raja of Garhwal.<sup>5</sup>

Ajaipal was called the Chaundyal Raja because he is said to have originally hailed from the village of Chaundi (about 2.5 km. from Chandpurgarhi in district Chamoli) where he seems to have lived as a petty chief like so many others then ruling over the different valleys of Garhwal. Being ambitious in nature, he began to extend the boundaries of his kingdom.<sup>6</sup> The first victim of Ajaipal's onslaught was the Topyal raja<sup>7</sup> and then Anandpal II, a Panwar chief of Chandpurgarhi, probably also his kinsman, because Ajaipal himself was a Panwar Rajput. He is said to have first entered into the service of Anandpal II and then, getting an opportunity, expelled his master and usurped the throne.<sup>8</sup> He virtually established himself in Chandpurgarhi and made it his headquarters. He is credited with bringing the entire hill region under his sway and consolidating it.<sup>9</sup> The boundaries of his

1. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 445-46; Raturi, *op. cit.*, p. 338

2. Barthwal, *op. cit.*, p. 15

3. Bhakt Darshan, *op. cit.*, p. 6

4. Bahadur, *op. cit.*, p. 220-21

5. Gairola, Tara Dutt: 'Early History of Garhwal Rajas'—*Jourgal of the U. P. Historical Society*, Vol. XVI, Part I, pp. 72, 75

6. *Ibid.*, p. 76

7. *Ibid.*

8. *Ibid.*, pp. 75-76

9. Dabral, S. P., *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 198

kingdom stretched to the Himalayas in the north to Chandi, near Hardwar in the south, to the Yamuna in the west and to the Badhan in the east.<sup>1</sup> It has been observed that the region covered by the parganas of Dewalgarh and Barahsyun, in this district, formed a part of Ajaipal's kingdom. It has not yet been settled whether the present Salan region formed a part of the Garhwal rajas' territories or not.<sup>2</sup>

Ajaipal shifted his seat of government from Chandpuri (now in district Chamoli) to Dewalgarh in this district, and again transferred it to Srinagar,<sup>3</sup> which remained the capital of the Garhwal rajas for a very long time and still stands among the most celebrated towns of this district. The naming of the country from Kedarbhum and Badrikshetra to Garhwal took place in the time of this ruler.<sup>4</sup> The most outstanding feature of Ajaipal's reign was his well-organised administrative system. The name Garhwal itself, as applied to the region, won popularity in his reign.<sup>5</sup> He divided the entire region into parganas and subdivided them into patti, to facilitate the administration of the areas under him<sup>6</sup>.

Ajaipal was succeeded by Kalyanpal (1388-1398), after 17 years of the death of the former and he by Sundarpal (1398-1413) during whose reign the central Asian invader, Timur the lame, raided the outskirts of the Himalayan hills.<sup>7</sup> The house of the Panwar rajas at Srinagar seems to have been least affected by this invasion. Bijaipal and Sahajpal followed Sundarpal.<sup>8</sup> A metallic bell in the temple of Raghunathji at Devaprayag, bears the name of Sahajpal who probably presented it to the temple.<sup>9</sup>

Balbhadrpal (1473-1498), a contemporary of Buhlul Lodi (1451-1488), the ruler of Delhi, is said to have changed the dynastic cognomen from Pal to Sah. The relations between Garhwal and Delhi were satisfactory and the alliance was further strengthened when Buhlul invited the assistance of Balbhadrpal against some of his refractory vassals in the western part of his empire who responded readily, subdued the unruly and insubordinate feudatories and made them pay proper allegiance.<sup>10</sup> For rendering this signal service, the sultan conferred the title of 'Sah' on the raja, by which title the rulers of Garhwal came to be known. Bahadur Sah (Balbhadr Sah) is said to have been a man of extraordinary prowess, an instance of his uncommon strength being evident in his feat of lifting single-handed, the stone gate of Srinagar.<sup>11</sup>

1. Bahadur, Rai Pati Ram, *op. cit.*, pp. 137-188

2. Dabral, S. P. *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 54

3. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 526; Raturi, *op. cit.*, 365, 368

4. *Ibid.*, pp. 367-368

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Ibid.*

7. Elliot, H.M. and Dowson, J. : *The History of India as told by its own Historians*, Vol. III, pp. 461, 513

8. Raturi, *op. cit.*, pp. 370-371

9. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 447

10. *Historical Account of Garhwal*, Ch. No. 4, Series 11, p. 25 (State Archives, Lucknow).

11. *Ibid.*

Balbhadra Sah was succeeded by Man Sah who is believed to have been ruling in 1547. He extended the boundaries of his kingdom by raiding the plains in the south and Tibet in the north.<sup>1</sup> He founded the city of Manpur (near Srinagar)<sup>2</sup>, and is said to have ordered the construction of the canopy of a famous Mahadeva temple at Devaprayag which was built by architects like Haridas and the Keshav brothers.<sup>3</sup> In an inscription in a temple near Pauri, is mentioned a grant given by him, on his birthday in 1547, to the Ekeshwar temple in pargana Chaundkot of the district.<sup>4</sup> The *Manodaya Kavya*, a Sanskrit poem written by the court poet Jyotir Rai (alias Bharat), is dedicated to this ruler in which details of the struggle that ensued between him and Kalyan Chand, the raja of Kumaon, are set out.<sup>5</sup> De Laet, a noted European traveller, has described Garhwal as a very fertile and rich kingdom and that its ruler Man Sah ate out of dishes of gold.<sup>6</sup> An inscription of this raja is still extant in the Raghunathji temple at Devaprayag<sup>7</sup>, which reveals some facts about the construction of a temple made by him.

Man Sah's successor, Sham Sah, was succeeded by Dularam Sah who issued a grant in 1580.<sup>8</sup> He is said to have come into direct conflict with the Chand rajas of Kumaon, when Rudra Chand (1565—1597) invaded his territory but the latter could not achieve his ends.<sup>9</sup> The mutual rivalry between the rajas of Kumaon and Garhwal became a matter of grave concern from this time onward. This unsatisfactory relationship between these two kingdoms existed for more than two centuries rendering them weak in power and depleted in materials.

Mahipati Sah succeeded Dularam Sah about 1580 and was the first raja of this dynasty whose paramountcy was acknowledged all over Garhwal, including this district, as well as Chamoli and Dehra Dun. His prowess is reflected in the title given to him, 'Garvabhanjan' (annihilator of pride).<sup>10</sup> The ruler of Kumaon, Lakshmi Chand (1597—1621) attacked Garhwal seven times during the reign of Mahipati Sah but was always repulsed with considerable loss.<sup>11</sup> Mahipati Sah simultaneously led expeditions in the north, most probably near the borders of modern Tibet and brought the Daba region (western Tibet) under his sway. The territories of Mahipati Sah at this time extended up

1. Raturi, op. cit., pp. 375-376

2. Gairola, T. D., op. cit., p. 74

3. Dabral, op. cit., Vol. IV, pp. 232-233

4. Ibid.

5. Ibid.

6. Salefore, G. N. : *The Mughals and the Garhwal Rulers, (1634-1684)*—Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Mysore, 1955, Vol. XXXI, Part II, p. 17

7. Dabral, S. P. : *Shri Uttarakhand Yatra-darshan*, p. 524; *Uttarakhand Ka Itihas*, Vol. IV, p. 269

8. Atkinson, op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 447, 526

9. Ibid., pp. 533-534

10. Raturi, op. cit., pp. 377, 382

11. Ibid.; Atkinson, op. cit., Vol. II, p. 558

to the source of the river Sutlej in the north-west.<sup>1</sup> In an inscription in a temple at Srinagar which dates back to 1625 it is mentioned that Mahipati Sah was a contemporary of the Mughal emperors Akbar (1556-1605) and Jahangir (1605-1727).<sup>2</sup>

In his *Ain-i-Akbari*, Abul Fazl, the most famous of Akbar's ministers and historians, gives a description of one sirkar, Kumaon within the subah of Delhi<sup>3</sup> but the general description may as well apply to Garhwal as to Kumaon.<sup>4</sup> This sirkar comprised 21 *mahals* (parganas)<sup>5</sup> none of which, except Kotdwara, whose revenue stood undetermined, seems to have been situated in the hills and therefore could hardly be within the territory of the raja of Garhwal.<sup>6</sup> It is also said that the raja of Garhwal was exempted from the payment of tribute and his territories from the assessment of revenue to be paid in to the imperial treasury.<sup>7</sup> It can, therefore, be assumed that during this period the rajas of Garhwal enjoyed almost full independence and that they neither paid any tribute to the emperor nor supplied any contingent to him.<sup>8</sup> It also appears that an impression of the great wealth of these hill states was generally prevalent among the Muslims in the plains.<sup>9</sup> Farishta, the most famous historian of the 17th century, uses the term 'raja of Kumaon' for its ruler though he seems to mean by it 'the rajas of Kumaon and Garhwal', a description which is more apposite.<sup>10</sup> Ardando, a Jesuit missionary arrived at Srinagar on his way to Tibet in 1625 and mentions in his writings that although the raja paid tribute to the Mughals yet no regard was paid to the official edicts from Jahangir and Asaf Khan (the Mughal vizir).<sup>11</sup> Francis de Azevedo (a Jesuit priest), came to Srinagar from Agra in 1631, and mentions that on the death of the raja of Garhwal, 60 ladies of the *zehana* had committed sati.<sup>12</sup> The raja mentioned in these accounts was most probably Mahipati Sah who was killed in a battle fought against the Chands.<sup>13</sup>

Prithvi Sah succeeded Mahipati Sah and ascended the throne about 1630-31. In 1640, he issued a grant of land.<sup>14</sup> He was the most powerful ruler of his dynasty who extended and fixed the western boundaries by waging a successful war on the hill chiefs ruling in that quarter.<sup>15</sup> In 1635, a terrible famine afflicted Garhwal, followed by an imperial attack in 1635-36. Shah Jahan, the Mughal emperor, sent this expedition to bring the Srinagar raja under his sway and Mirza Shiya Nazabat Khan

1. Dabral, S. P., *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, pp. 254-255

2. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 526

3. Abul Fazl : *Ain-i-Akbari*, Eng. trans. by H. S. Jarret, Vol. II, (Calcutta, 1949), p. 294

4. *Ibid.*, p. 285

5. *Ibid.*, p. 294

6. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 548-549

7. *Ibid.*, p. 549

8. Bahadur, Rai P. R. *op. cit.*, p. 192

9. Briggs, J. : *Tarikh-Farishta*, Eng. trans., Vol. IV, (London, 1888), pp. 547, 459 : Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 542-543

10. *Ibid.*, p. 543

11. Saletole, *op. cit.*, p. 17

12. *Ibid.*

13. *Ibid.*

14. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. p. 563

15. Raturi, *op. cit.*, pp. 382-388

Badakshi, the *faujdar* of Kangra, was deputed with a large force for this purpose.<sup>1</sup> In the begining the raja made no efforts to resist this army but when it entered the interior of his kingdom, he blocked all exits and beleagured it fiercely, placing the imperial army in a grave plight. As a result of this predicament, panic ensued in the entire army, the fight leading to many deaths and the survivors being able to return only after their noses had been chopped off. Nazabat Khan, fearing disgrace, poisoned himself.<sup>2</sup>

Emperor Shah Jahan, therefore, resolved to crush the Garhwal raja completely. A considerable force was despatched under the command of Mir Mughal about 1640 to bring him under proper allegiance. A severe fight took place between the two armies somewhere near the present district of Dehra Dun in which Mir Mughal lost his life. Finding that their commander had died, the Mughal army ran pell-mell<sup>3</sup>, leaving the Garhwal raja to rule in peace.

By 1647, the temper at the imperial court towards the raja of Garhwal had come back to normal and Dara Shukoh (Shah Jahan's son) sent a robe of honour to Prithvi Sah on behalf of the emperor.<sup>4</sup> But as Prithvi Sah was still not amenable another expedition was undertaken under the command of the most celebrated general, Khalil-ul-lah Khan, the hero of the Balkh and Badakshan wars.<sup>5</sup> Shah Jahan had already sent firmans to Baz Bahadur Chand, the raja of Kumaon, and to Raja Saubhagya Prakash of Sirmur to extend their help to the imperial army against the Garhwal raja, as far as the exigency of the situation required.<sup>6</sup> Having overrun the Dun region, Khalil-ul-lah Khan wantonly plundered and killed the people in the adjoining parts of the tract. The imperial forces then occupied Chandighat (near Hardwar) and put to flight the Garhwali troops.<sup>7</sup> In spite of being surrounded by the enemy from all sides, and as prudence required, the raja avoided any effective resistance. The imperial army, therefore, failed to make its way into this hill tract once again.<sup>8</sup> Eventually giving up all hopes, Khalil-ul-lah Khan returned to the court broken hearted.<sup>9</sup> Before returning to Delhi he entrusted Thana Chandi, Swargasram and the adjoining territories of this district to Raja Nagar Das of Hardwar.<sup>10</sup>

On January 2, 1656, Shah Jahan sent Kasim Khan Mir Atish to lead another attack on Garhwal, which caused the raja to accept the Mughal suzerainty by sending his son, Medini Sah, to the imperial court.<sup>11</sup>

1. Dabral, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 279

2. Salefore, *op. cit.*, p. 18; Dabral, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 279 ...

3. *Ibid.*, Vol. IV, pp. 287-279

4. Salefore, *op. cit.*, p. 18

5. Elliot and Dowson, *op. cit.*, Vol. VII, (Allahabad), p. 105, (Extract from Inayat Khan's *Shahjahan Nama*) ...

6. *Ibid.*, p. 107, Dabral, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 281

7. Elliot & Dowson, *op. cit.*, Vol. VII, pp. 105, 107; Dabral, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 283

8. Elliot & Dowson, *op. cit.*, Vol. VII, pp. 105 107; Burn, R. & Haig, W.: *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. IV, p. 207

9. *Ibid.*

10. Elliot and Dowson, *op. cit.*, Vol. VII

11. Burn, R. & Haig, W.: *Cambridge History of India*, Vol. IV, p. 207

After Dara Shukoh's defeat and flight as a result of the war of succession in 1658, his son, Sulaiman Shukoh, also escaped from Samugarh, their fate for the imperial throne being sealed on account of Aurangzeb's victory against them.<sup>1</sup> The hot pursuit by Aurangzeb's men compelled the prince to change the course of his flight from Punjab where his father had already gone to the hills. Making a brief halt at Chandighat, he sent an envoy to the raja of Garhwal asking him for help.<sup>2</sup> The prince then proceeded to Kotdwara where satisfactory security arrangements were made by Prithvi Sah for his stay. Making his way through the Khoh and after a tiresome journey, Sulaiman Shukoh arrived at Srinagar in August, 1658, where the royal fugitive was shown the utmost hospitality by Prithvi Sah.<sup>3</sup>

Aurangzeb declared war on Prithvi Sah who was unwilling to surrender the prince and suggested to Jai Singh, his Hindu commander-in-chief, to use his influence and diplomacy with the Hindu raja.<sup>4</sup> The raja still refused to stoop so low as to ignore all Hindu traditions of hospitality to a refugee. But Medini Singh fell into Jai Singh's net and delivered up the prince on December 12, 1660, who was sent to Delhi as prisoner. In January he was sent to Gwalior and by a process of slow opium poisoning he died in May, 1662.<sup>5</sup> Medini Sah is said to have usurped the throne but on account of his premature death, Prithvi Sah was succeeded, in 1664, by his grandson, Fateh Sah, who was the 49th ruler of the Panwar dynasty. During his minority, his mother, Rani Bartawali acted as regent.<sup>6</sup> About 1684, Fateh Sah took the reins of government into his hands and in 1685, he issued a grant of land.<sup>7</sup> Fateh Sah, later raids into the adjoining areas of Dehra Dun and Saharanpur from where he could be driven out by the Mughal general Saiyid Ali only with great difficulty.<sup>8</sup> The mutual rivalry between Garhwal and Kumaon during the time of Fateh Sah did not cease. After the death of Udyot Chand, Gyan Chand of Kumaon (1698—1708) revived his attacks on Garhwal from the north-east. After crossing the Ramganga he plundered Sabli Khatli and Saidhar in pargana Malla Salan in this district.<sup>9</sup> Fateh Sah vigorously undertook retaliatory measures and overran Chaukot and Giriwar (both in Almora district). From this time onwards marauding expeditions were made by one side against the other which rendered the borders of the two kingdoms desolate. In 1707, Gyan Chand sent another expedition into Garhwal and destroyed the fort of Chandpurgarhi (in district Chamoli).<sup>10</sup> Fateh Sah remained on friendly terms with Aurnagzeb till he died in 1707.<sup>11</sup>

1. Sarkar, J.N. *History of Aurangzeb*, Vol. II, p. 224; Tripathi, R. P. : *Rise and Fall of the Mughal Empire*, p. 499
2. Dabral, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, pp. 289-290
3. *Ibid.*, p. 293
4. Tripathi, R. P., *op. cit.*, p. 499
5. *Ibid.*
6. Saletore, *op. cit.*, pp. 19-20
7. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 573
8. *Ibid.*
9. Dabral, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, pp. 333
10. Sankratyayana, R., *op. cit.*, pp. 71-89
11. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 573

## MODERN PERIOD

Jagat Chand, the son and successor of Gyan Chand, ascended the throne of Kumaon in 1708. His accession did not bring about any change in the age-old enmity existing between the two kingdoms and he renewed the fighting by attacking the Lohba region then held by the Garhwal raja. After successfully penetrating into the valley of the Alaknanda, Jagat Chand reached Srinagar and put Fateh Sah to flight.<sup>1</sup> Jagat Chand plundered Garhwal but found it extremely difficult for a very long time to maintain stability there and so gave Srinagar to a Brahmana in gift. It is also believed that some portion of the plunder was sent to the Mughal emperor, in the form of *nazrana*.<sup>2</sup> The retreat of Jagat Chand from Garhwal furnished an opportunity to Fateh Sah who, defeated in battle but not in spirit, tried to retrieve his lost domains. In 1710, Fateh Sah invaded Kumaon and after putting to rout the Kumaoni forces, occupied Garsagram near Baijnath, in district Almora. Fateh Sah was one of the notable rulers of the kingdom and was known as 'Ath-lakh' (eight lakhs), probably because the land revenue or perhaps the entire annual income of the Garhwal raja was then estimated to be about eight lakh rupees.<sup>3</sup> Banda Vairagi, the famous Sikh leader, is said to have received the assistance of Fateh Sah during the former's struggle against Bahadur Sah I (1707-12).<sup>4</sup>

Fateh Sah died in 1716 and was succeeded by his son, Dalip Sah, who is said to have issued a grant in the year 1717. His rule lasted only for a few months and he was succeeded by his brother, Upendra Sah, who was ruled only for about 9 months. The next ruler, Pradip Sah, was the son of Dalip Sah.<sup>5</sup>

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This ruler issued many grants which range in date from 1717 to 1772 thus fixing the period of his reign.<sup>6</sup> During his reign this district enjoyed a spell of exceptional prosperity and there was substantial increase in its revenue<sup>7</sup> to which the partial abatement of hostilities with Kumaon may have also contributed. The attention of the Rohillas now became focussed on Garhwal.

In 1743-44, Kumaon was invaded by the Rohilla chief, Hafiz Rahmat Khan. After occupying Almora, the capital Kalyan Chand, the raja, was forced to take refuge in Lohba (in Garhwal territory). The Chand raja's appeal for help was immediately

1. Bahadur, Rai Pati Ram, *op. cit.*, p. 189

2. Dabral, S. P., *op.cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 334

3. Tehri Garhwal State Records, (U.P. state Archives), Series III, S. N. 4

4. Haig, W. Burn, R. (Ed.): *The Cambridge History of India*, (New Delhi, 1957), Vol. IV, p. 323

5. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 574

6. *Ibid.*, p. 575

7. Returi, *op. cit.*, pp. 400-401. Bahadur, Rai, P. R., *op. cit.*, p. 191; Sankratyayana, *op. cit.*, pp. 192-93. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 586-588

answered by Pradip Sah but, due to the irony of fate, the combined armies of Garhwal and Kumaon suffered a severe defeat at the hands of the Rohillas. The crisis reached its climax when the city of Srinagar came to be threatened. The Rohillas' aggressive attitude towards the Garhwal raja was mitigated by his paying the heavy compensation of three lakhs of rupees. But in 1757 the Rohillas led another expedition, under Najib Khan, into Dehra Dun (then a part of the Garhwal dominions). Pradip Sah's feeble resistance resulted in the establishment of the Rohillas' authority in that region which continued till Najib Khan's death in 1770.<sup>1</sup> Pradip Sah died in 1772 and was succeeded by his son, Lalit Sah.

Lalit Sah (1772—1780) paid little attention to the affairs of the Dun which soon turned into a wilderness, particularly as a result of the depredations of the Sikh, Gujar and Rajput marauders of the plains. The raja failed to afford protection to his people again these freebooters except that he tried to buy them off by paying an amount annually to their leaders.<sup>2</sup> At this time the kingdom of Kumaon had fallen to its lowest ebb and Sib Deo Joshi was acting as regent on behalf of the titular raja, Dip Chand. On account of the murder of the former by the army, the queen took the reins of power into her own hands but she also was put to death by Mohan Singh, a scion of the royal family. This was followed by the assassination of Dip Chand by Mohan Singh who proclaimed himself king of Kumaon in 1777 and assumed the title of Mohan Chand. Sib Deo Joshi's friends and relations were massacred or banished at the instance of Mohan Chand and a reign of terror ensued.<sup>3</sup> The appeal for help against Mohan Chand was heard by Lalit Sah. The Garhwal armies marched into Kumaon and after routing the troops of the usurper, Mohan Chand, in 1779<sup>4</sup>, Lalit Sah placed his second son Pradyuman Chand, on the throne of Kumaon.<sup>5</sup> Lalit Sah also made grants in favour of a temple in Dasoli in that year and another in 1780 in favour of the Bhairava temple of Langurgarhi.<sup>6</sup> After he had completed this mission, Lalit Sah died in 1780 and was succeeded by his eldest son, Jayakriti Sah, whose grants, dating from 1780 to 1785, are known to exist.<sup>7</sup>

With the demise of Lalit Sah ended another phase of Garhwal's solidarity. Quarrels soon arose between his two sons, Jayakriti Sah and Pradyuman Chand, the ruler of Kumaon, the former demanding the acknowledgement of his seniority by right of birth and the latter refusing to yield on the ground that he was bound to maintain the dignity of the throne of Kumaon on which he had been installed by his father.<sup>8</sup> Jayakriti Sah then began to intrigue with the exiled Mohan Chand. Sensing that the

1. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 586-588

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 575-577

3. *Ibid.*, pp. 576-577

4. *Ibid.*, p. 577

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Ibid.*

7. Sankratyayana, *op. cit.*, pp. 95-96

situation was fraught with danger, Harsh Dev Joshi, the prime minister of Kumaon, went to Garhwal with a strong escort and demanded an interview with Jayakrit Sah in the hope of arriving at a settlement but Jayakrit Sah doubted his sincerity and attacked him only to meet with a force which defeated his troops and obliged him to seek safety in flight, during which he got ill and died in 1785. The Kumaon troops swept everything before them and occupied Srinagar. This raid is known to this day as the "Joshiyana".<sup>1</sup> Parakram Sah, Jayakrit Sah's third brother, proclaimed himself the raja of Garhwal but Pradyuman Chand rushed from Almora, ousted Parakram Sah and ascended the throne of Srinagar under his original name, Pradyuman Sah. For about a year both the kingdoms of Garhwal and Kumaon were combined under his rule. In 1786, he abandoned the throne of Kumaon in favour of Parakram Sah who was soon ousted by Mehan Chand, the latter himself being killed in 1788 by Harsh Dev Joshi.<sup>2</sup>

The Rohillas under Ghulam Kadir again raided the Dun region and annexed it about 1787. But after his death in 1789, his deputy, Umed Singh, became reconciled to Pradyuman Sah and continued to hold that district on behalf of the raja of Garhwal.<sup>3</sup>

In 1790-91, the Gurkhas marched into Garhwal through Kotdwara (in this district) and besieged Langurgarhi.<sup>4</sup> They plundered and oppressed the people of the whole Salan region but failed to secure their hold on the fort of Langurgarhi and the adjoining parts of the region.<sup>5</sup> Finding himself unable to counteract the tyrannical Gurkha army, Pradyuman Sah agreed to pay an annual tribute of Rs 25,000 and to appoint an agent at the court of Kathmandu. This arrangement subsisted for twelve years and preserved amity between Garhwal and Nepal.<sup>6</sup>

During this period small parties of Gurkhas began to pour into the district from the borders of Kumaon. For their part, the inhabitants made heavy reprisals on the raiders. Besides paying the annual tribute, the raja had to bear the heavy expenses on account of the maintenance of the Nepali Resident at his court and had also to afford hospitality to all the Nepalese who in larger numbers and more often, came to visit his territory on the excuse of coming on pilgrimage.<sup>7</sup>

In 1794-95, Garhwal was afflicted by a severe famine known as the *Ekuani-Bavani*, because of the Samvat year 1851-52 and in 1803 the region was shaken by a terrible earthquake. These natural calamities took a heavy toll of human life and cattle.<sup>8</sup> Factions and intrigues in the court at Srinagar had begun to

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 96-97; Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 577-578, 603-604

2. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 604-605, Sankratyayana, *op. cit.*, pp. 96-97

3. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 578-579

4. Dibral, *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 446

5. *Ibid.*, pp. 446-447

6. Bahadur, Rai P. R., *op. cit.*, pp. 193-199

7. Raturi, *op. cit.*, pp. 418-419

8. *Ibid.*

raise their heads and the payment of the tribute to Nepal had also not been made for two or three years prior to 1803. The Gurkhas, who had tried several times to capture the fort of Langargarhi but had failed, were prompted by all these factors to invade Garhwal in 1803.

The catastrophic earthquake occurring in this district in 1803, which brought indescribable misery to the people, was followed by the second Gurkha invasion of Garhwal in that year, under the leadership of Amar Singh Thapa, Hasti Dal Chautariya and some others. This time the Gurkhas led the expedition from Lohba in Chamoli district and rapidly advanced upon Srinagar. Instead of offering any effective resistance to the enemy, Pradyuman Sah escaped from Srinagar with the members of his family and came to Dehra Dun. The whole of Garhwal, including the region covered by the present district, was occupied by the Gurkhas who hotly pursued the raja and drove him out of the Dun, which they also occupied. The raja sold all the valuables he had with him, succeeded in enlisting the help of Ramdayal Singh, the Gujar raja of Landhaura (district Saharanpur) and raised an army of about 12,000 men. At its head he entered the Dun but too late. A fierce fight took place in Khurbura (near Dehra Dun) in January, 1804, in which Pradyuman Sah lost his life. The raja's younger brother was taken prisoner by the Gurkhas, Parakram Sah fled to Kangra and Sudarshan Sah, the eldest son of the raja, sought protection of the British, in the plains.<sup>1</sup> He was a minor at that time and was placed in an unenviable situation. It was with great difficulty that his friends and a few faithful followers could keep his life safe.<sup>2</sup>

The Gurkha commander, Amar Singh Thapa, with his son Ranjor Thapa as deputy, held the administration of both Kumaon and Garhwal during the year 1804.<sup>3</sup> Later, Hastidal Chautariya and Sardar Bhakti Thapa were probably associated with the management of affairs, particularly in Garhwal. The sole object of the Gurkha occupation was the exaction of the greatest possible amount of tribute. In 1811, a regular commission was sent from Nepal<sup>4</sup> consisting of Dasrath Khatri and Bahadur Bhandari for the assessment of land revenue which, with a few reservations in favour of individuals and temples, was assigned in favour of the troops. The region of Garhwal was divided into three commands and one of them was set up at Srinagar, then the capital of Garhwal. Minor civil magistracies were filled up by officers of the rank of *faujdar* (a military title) who treated the local people like animals. They exacted revenue with a free hand and no one could question whether the means they employed in the collection were justified. They remunerated themselves by farming the revenue and appropriating the lines they realised in their judicial capacity. Neither property nor the honour of

1. *Ibid.*, p. 437, Bahadur, Rai, P. R., *op. cit.*, p. 199, Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 615-616

2. *Zila Tehri Garhwal Ki Bandobast Report*, (1965), p. 7

3. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 616

4. Bahadur, Rai, P. R., *op. cit.*, pp. 201-302

women was safe with these officers and the defaulters were often arrested and sold into slavery. The government being weak, the region fell into a state of lamentable decay. The morale of the people fell, villages were deserted, agriculture was ruined, the population began decreasing and many families left the district in consequence. The barbarities of the Gurkhas, including the most severe orders, imposts and *dands* (fines) levied by them on the people, depopulated the region which reduced the revenue to about one-fourth of what was realised by the rajas of Garhwal.<sup>1</sup> The local term 'Gorkhiani', aptly reflecting the oppressive rule of the Gurkhas, came into use from this time in this region.

In the meantime, Harsh Dev Joshi and a few others who were friendly towards Sudarshan Sah, exercised their influence on the authorities of the East India Company for their help in freeing Garhwal from the Gurkha yoke. But their attempts bore little effect. Although the British were themselves preoccupied in their territorial aggrandisement in the fertile plains, they extended their boundaries as far north as the Gurkha frontier. As the border district began to suffer from incessant inroads of the Gurkhas, Lord Hastings (the then governor general) took the opportunity of extending the British power into the hills of Garhwal. Gillespie (the general) who was sent with 3,500 men to eject Amar Singh Thapa from Srinagar, was killed but the conquest of Kumaon in April, 1815,<sup>2</sup> by the British so demoralised the Gurkha soldiers that they deserted in large numbers. Though the Nepal government was compelled to sign the treaty of Sigauli, it refused to ratify it but when the British penetrated the heart of Nepal and defeated the Gurkha army, the Nepal government agreed to ratify it. By it the Gurkhas ceded Garhwal<sup>3</sup> to the east of the Alaknanda, the territory including the present district to the British, the cession also being accepted by Sudarshan Sah, whose kingdom, confined to western Garhwal, becoming known till 1960, as Tehri-Garhwal.

It has been acknowledged by English writers themselves that their victory in this war was brought about more by the weakness of the Gurkhas than by any skill or courage on the part of the British and that the greatest source of weakness for the Gurkhas was the universal disaffection of the local inhabitants. As soon as the British troops entered the hills, the people of the region began to bring in necessary provisions for their use to furnish useful information about the movements of the Gurkhas and to provide every facility for obtaining local knowledge of this region, which in such terrain would otherwise have been impossible for the British to get for themselves. Harsh Dev Joshi, who still commanded great respect among the people, was instrumental in persuading them to help the British. Had the local population of Garhwal withheld their co-operation, it would have been impossible for the British to achieve success in this war.<sup>4</sup> After

1. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 620-622

2. Hunter, W. W. : *The Marquess of Hastings.*, (Oxford, 1893), pp. 72-73

3. Dodwell, H. H. (Ed.) : *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. V, pp. 378-379

4. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, p. 654

the decline of Gurkha power in this district, the inhabitants exacted full payment of the debt of blood, cruelty and rapine which their erstwhile oppressors owed to them. The Garhwalis retaliated against the isolated bands of Gurkhas by massacring them or driving them away to die of exposure and starvation in the mountains, each having been already stripped of all his possessions. It was a terrible revenge. Only a few who had married into local families and were given protection by their relations or those who were given shelter by some kindly zamindars, could escape the fate which overtook a majority of their comrades.<sup>1</sup>

On May 3, 1815, the British annexed the entire region of Garhwal although the treaty by which it was ceded to them was concluded on December 2, 1815, and ratified on March 4, 1816.<sup>2</sup> Having accomplished the extension of territory as far as the Tibetan border, the British divided the region into two : eastern Garhwal and western Garhwal<sup>3</sup>, the former consisting of the present districts of Garhwal and Chamoli was retained by the British whereas the latter (afterwards known as Tehri-Garhwal including Uttarkashi) was handed over to Raja Sudarshan Sah, who was then living in Dehra Dun.<sup>4</sup> Srinagar remained the headquarters of British Garhwal as before but the region covered by the present district was combined with Kumaon for administrative purposes.

In 1816, the assistant commissioner of Kumaon brought to the notice of the government the difficulty that might arise if more precise language was not used in defining the boundary between British Garhwal and Tehri-Garhwal. Although pargana Nagpur in district Chamoli was clearly intended to be included in the portion of the territory assigned to the British, the loose use of certain names, such as Alaknanda and Mandakini, as specifying the boundary might, according to him, well have led to the exclusion from the possession of the British government of some valuable portions of that pargana including the *pattis* of Bamsu and Maikhanda in pargana Nagpur which lay to the west of these rivers. Two years later this uncertainty resulted in some cases of the inhabitants of pargana Rawain, of the then Tehri statae, plundering the pilgrims bound for the shrine of Kedarnath and, in 1823, the raja of Tehri Garhwal laid claim to the villages lying to the west of the Mandakini. The British government ruled that pargana Nagpur included all the subdivisions then within the established limits of that pargana.

The first two assistant commissioners of Garhwal, Traill and Batten, occupied that office for 21 years each—1815 to 1837. They studied Garhwal in considerable detail and besides making the first revenue Settlements. Traill wrote the famous book,

1. *Ibid.*, Vol. II, pp. 622-623.

2. *Ibid.*, Vol. II, pp. 666-667; Dodwell, *op. cit.*, Vol. V, pp. 378-379.

3. Bahadur, Rai, P. R., *op. cit.*, p. 221.

4. *Ibid.*, p. 211; Atkinson; *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 680-682.

*Flora and Fauna of Kumaon.* The great countrywide freedom struggle broke out in 1857-58 but the district remained unaffected. The original town of Srinagar was swept away in 1894 by the floods of the river Birahi but a new town, bearing the same name, was established about 2 km. higher up.

In 1919, the district came into prominence as a centre of political activity under the leadership of Barrister Mukundi Lal Ansuya Prasad Bahuguna, Pratap Singh Negi, Keshar Singh Rawat and Kirpa Ram Mishra 'Manhar' who held public meetings against the coolie system (forced and very low paid labour). In 1920-21, a committee of the Indian National Congress was formed in this district.

The name of Chandra Singh 'Garhwali' the hero of Peshawar incident, deserves special mention in the history of this district and the history of India as well. On April 23, 1930, he refused to fire at a procession of barehanded Pakhtoon Satyagrahis led by Abdul Ghaffar Khan (popularly known as the Frontier Gandhi) and thus won the everlasting gratitude of his countrymen.

During the Salt Satyagraha in 1930, a meeting was held at Dogadda which was presided over by Har Govind Pant, from Kumaon and in 1931 a huge rally was addressed by Nardev Shastri, another leader, at Yamkeshwar. The result of these meetings was a patriotic awakening all over the Garhwal region, leading to a chain of political meetings at different places addressed by prominent leaders like Pratap Singh Negi, Manhar, Keshav Datt Joshi, Jag Mohan Singh Negi, Suresha Nand Baloni and others. These leaders encouraged the people to discard all foreign goods and adopt everything swadeshi.

The great patriot and revolutionary, Chandra Shekhar Azad, came to this district in July 1930, at the invitation of Bhawani Singh Rawat, a Garhwali student of Hindu College, Delhi. Chandra Shekhar Azad and his associates who had flocked to Dogadda in this district, from different places received training in the use of firearms to resist the British regime in the dense forest around Dogadda.

During the Quit India movement of 1942, which was strongly supported in the district, many persons were arrested and sent to jail. During the Second World War about 3,000 Garhwali soldiers joined the Indian National Army of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose among whom 600 lost their lives fighting to free the country from alien rule.

The year 1945 marked the end of the Second World War, by which time British public opinion had veered round to granting complete, Independence to India and the British parliament decided to leave India for good. On August 15, 1947, the Country and with it the district was liberated from alien rule and declared to be Independent. This august day has since been declared as one of the three national days of the country. The district celebrates Independence Day every year in a befitting manner and there is rejoicing in every home. The national flag is

unfurled on all government and on almost all private buildings as well. The country had become free but before the people could fully enjoy the sense of liberation and victory, they woke to find that a great tragedy had accompanied freedom and the partition of India had become a fact. About 607 displaced persons from Pakistan came to the district and were rehabilitated.

On hearing the news of the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi on January 30, 1948, the whole district went into mourning. Markets, offices, educational institutions, etc., were closed and several processions were taken out and meetings held to mourn the tragic and irreparable loss of the father of the nation. Although he died, he still lives in the memory of the people and is remembered on October 2, which is celebrated in the district as in other parts of the State as Gandhi Jayanti. On this occasion meetings, discussions and discourses are organised all over the district to eulogise his principles and deeds. The people also take a pledge to serve the nation and follow his way of life.

With the enactment and adoption of the Constitution of India on January 26, 1950, India became a sovereign democratic republic. The day was celebrated in the district by taking out processions, holding meetings and illuminating houses, shops and government and other buildings. This day is observed with enthusiasm every year all over the district as Republic Day.

The nation has always venerated those who had participated in the struggle for freedom. On the occasion of the celebration of the silver jubilee year of Independence in 1973, Some 263 persons of the district, who had taken part in India's freedom struggle or their dependents, were presented with *tamra patra* (copper plate) placing on record the services rendered by them or their forbears.

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## CHAPTER III

### PEOPLE

#### GROWTH OF POPULATION

The Garhwal district included the district of Chamoli till February 24, 1960, when a separate district, by the name of Chamoli, then a tahsil, was carved out of it. The decennial growth and the percentage variation of the population in the census records of the district (as it now stand) are given in the following statement :

Year	No.of persons	Decade variation		Percentage decade variation
1901	2,83,760		—	—
1911	3,16,938	+ 33,178		+ 11.69
1921	3,20,602	+ 3,664		+ 1.16
1931	3,52,782	+ 32,180		+ 10.04
1941	3,97,867	+ 45,085		+ 12.78
1951	4,22,653	+ 24,786		+ 6.23
1961	4,82,327	+ 59,674		+ 14.12
1971	5,53,028	+ 70,701		+ 14.66

Since 1901, there has been a constant increase in population. The lowest increase, in 1911-21, is attributed to cholera and influenza epidemics and the highest, in 1961-71, when the State average was 19.78 per cent, probably to improved medical and health facilities.

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In 1961, according to the surveyor general of India, the area of the district was 5,454 sq. km, and the population 4,82,327. The district occupied the 23rd position in the State in area and ranked 49th in population.

According to the central statistical organization, on July 1, 1971, the area of the district was 5,440 sq. km. There was no change in the ranking of the district so far as the area was connected but it ranked 50th in respect of population.

In 1961, the density of population in the district was 86 per sq. km. as against 250 in the State. Ten years later, the density was 102 as against 300 in the State.

The decennial figures from 1901 to 1971 for the population of the area comprising the present district are given in the following statement :

Year	No. of persons	Males	Females	Females per 1,000/males
1901	2,83,760	1,39,657	1,44,103	1,032
1911	3,16,938	1,55,650	1,61,288	1,036
1921	3,20,602	1,53,872	1,66,730	1,084
1931	3,52,782	1,70,473	1,82,309	1,069
1941	3,97,867	1,91,598	2,06,269	1,077
1951	4,22,653	1,97,784	2,24,869	1,137
1961	4,82,327	2,22,892	2,59,435	1,164
1971	5,53,028	2,61,054	2,91,974	1,118

### Population by Tahsils and Towns

At the census of 1971, the district consisted of two tahsils Pauri and Lansdowne. The towns of Pauri, Srinagar and Bah Bazar (a part of Devaprayag notified area of the Tehri Garhwal district) are in tahsil Pauri and Kotdwara, Lansdowne and Dogadda in tahsil Lansdowne. The tahsilwise distribution of population and the number of villages and towns are given below :

Tahsil	Villages		TOWNS	Population		
	Uninhabited	Inhabited		No. of Persons	Males	Females
Pauri (total)	185	1,207	3	2,05,163	93,470	1,11,693
Pauri (rural)	185	1,207	—	1,90,139	84,541	1,05,598
Pauri (municipal board)	—	—	1	8,878	4,963	3,915
Srinagar (municipal board)	—	—	1	5,566	3,607	1,959
*Bah Bazar	—	—	1	580	359	221
Lansdowne (total)	157	2,029	2	3,47,865	1,67,584	1,80,281
Lansdowne (rural)	157	2,029	—	3,28,042	1,55,296	1,72,746
Kotdwara (municipal board)	—	—	1	11,457	6,635	4,822
Lansdowne (urban)	—	—	1	6,670	4,675	1,995
Dogadda (municipal board)	—	—	1	1,696	978	718

\*The part of the town of Devaprayag notified area in the Tehri Garhwal district falling in tahsil Pauri

Figures pertaining to the tahsilwise rural and urban population of the district in 1961 and 1971 are given in Statement I at the end of the chapter.

### Immigration and Emigration

According to the census of 1961, about 92.0 per cent people of the total population were born within the district, 5.0 per cent in other districts of the State, 1.1 per cent in other parts of India and 1.7 per cent in other countries. Among those from other countries, 7,421 were from Nepal, 841 from Pakistan and 54 from Burma. Most of the immigrants from Pakistan were displaced persons. The duration of residence of 54.4 per cent of the total immigrants was over 10 years, 89.6 per cent immigrants were returned from the rural areas and 10.4 per cent from the urban. Among these 24.5 per cent were males and 75.5 per cent females. The large percentage of females is due to migration on account of marriage.

The largest number of immigrants in 1961 was from Punjab and the smallest from Bihar, as shown in the statement given below :

States/Union territories	No. of persons	Males	Females
Punjab	1,542	1,041	501
Delhi	1,105	554	551
Rajasthan	699	454	245
Himachal Pradesh	311	182	149
Madhya Pradesh	168	82	86
Bihar	101	65	36

A number of persons must have gone out of the district to other parts of the State or abroad for purposes of education, employment, trade or business or on account of marriage but the data are not available.

### Displaced Persons

Most of the immigrants were displaced persons from Pakistan. As a result of the partition of the country in 1947, about 607 displaced persons were registered in the district in 1951. Their number rose to 841 in 1961. Attempts at rehabilitating them were made and licences to deal in controlled commodities were issued to them.

### Distribution of Population

The distribution of the rural population in 1971 among villages of different sizes was as under :

Range of population	No. of villages	No. of persons	Males	Females	Percentage to rural population of district
Less than 200	2,374	2,14,061	94,559	1,19,502	73.36
200-499	765	2,19,619	99,519	1,20,100	23.64
500-999	88	56,491	28,352	28,139	2.72
1,000-1,999	7	9,357	5,215	4,142	0.22
2,000-4,999	1	2,411	1,436	975	0.03
5,000-9,999	—	—	—	—	—
10,000 and above	1	16,242	10,756	5,486	0.03
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,236</b>	<b>5,18,181</b>	<b>2,39,837</b>	<b>2,78,344</b>	<b>100.00</b>

### LANGUAGES

The different languages and dialects spoken by the people of the district in 1971 were as follows :

Language/dialects	Number of persons
1	2
Hindi and Garhwali	5,38,344
Urdu	4,909
Kumaoni	3,387
Punjabi	2,019
Nepali/Gurkhali	2,016
Rajasthani	651
Santali	255
Kashmiri	231
Marwari	140
Khortha/Khotta	132
Kangali	130
Malayalam	124
Marathi	106
Gujari	102
Bhojpuri	86
Purbi	71
Sindhi	68

[Contd.

1	2
Kangi	49
Telugu, Multani Bihari, English, Tamil, Tibetan, Gurmukhi, Gujrati, Dogri, Kannada, Pahari (unspecified), Avadhi, Oriya, Deswali, Afghani/Pashto/Kabuli, Assami, Braj Bhasa, Himachali, Lushai/ Mizo and Persian	Less than 25 in each

The language current in the district is known as Garhwali, a form of central Pahari. In 1971, Garhwali was spoken by 76.29 per cent of the people. Many dialects are in use, in fact it may be said that the dialect varies with the pargana. Elisions are the rule and mispronunciations very common. Nearly all the few words of Persian origin are misapplied when used in Garhwali. Thus *rakm*, means revenue, *mustagis* means not a complainant but a litigant, *misl* means the case itself not the record of the case, etc. Most Garhwalis are bilingual, speaking Garhwali as well as Hindustani and though even the most highly educated persons use their own language in conversation with the other Garhwalis, they speak Hindustani of the plains to people of the plains.

### Script

The script used throughout the district is the Devanagri with hardly any local variations except that some letters are written in a slightly different form.

### RELIGION AND CASTE

The population of the district according to the different religions professed here, as recorded at the census of 1971, is mentioned below :

Religions	No. of persons	Males	Females
Hinduism	5,41,874	2,53,948	2,87,926
Islam	8,907	6,009	2,898
Christianity	1,298	543	755
Sikhism	725	444	281
Jainism	169	75	94
Buddhism	55	35	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,53,028</b>	<b>2,61,054</b>	<b>2,91,974</b>

## Principal Communities

**Hindu**—Hindu society in the district, as elsewhere, is patterned on the traditional fourfold caste system, the principal castes being the Brahmana, the Kshatriya (usually called Rajput in the district), the Vaish and the Sudra, each of which has a number of subcastes. The Brahmanas and Rajputs, both of the plains and of Khasa extraction, are together generally termed Bith, the Brahmana caste being subdivided into the Brahmana and the Khasa-Brahmana and the Rajput into the Rajput and the Khasa-Rajput, the members of the last named being Khasiyas who claim to be Aryan immigrants.

The Brahmanas of the district are immigrants who settled there in ancient times. They are mainly Sarolas or Gangaris. The Sarola group consists of Brahmanas who were originally residents of villages Nauti, Gairoli, Thapli and Ratura who came to the royal household of Raja Kanakpal at Chandpur as cooks and priests. It is said that in about 1400 A. D., Raja Ajaipal, who shifted the capital of Garhwal to Srinagar, ordered that food for his army should be cooked only by Sarola Brahmanas and no objection was to be taken to eating food prepared by them. Thus the caste superiority of the Sarolas over other Brahmanas was established, by what was a royal command, which had to be obeyed and not questioned. The main subcastes of this group are the Kotyal, Gairola, Khanduri, Nautiyal, Maithani, Thaplyal, Raturi, Chamola, Hatwal, Dundi, Nawani, Semalti, Dimri and Lakhera. The Nautiyals derive their surname from village Nauti, Raturis from village Ratura, Khanduris from village Khandura, Thaplyals from village Thapli, Gairolas from village Gairoli in pargana Chandpur and Maithanis from village Maithana.

### सरायान जप्ते

The principal subcastes of the Gangaris, so called from their living originally in the Ganga valley, are the Ghildyal, Dangwal, Malasi, Bahuguna, Uniyal, Dobhal, Chandola, Dhoundhiyal, Dabral, Barthwal, Kukreti, Joshi, Mamgain, Tiwari, Kala, Budola, Dhasmana, Juyal, Bhatts, etc. Subsequently some Brahmanas of this group formed a subgroup called Nirola, comprising the Kimothi, Semwal, Kandyal and others. In caste hierarchy, the Sarola is considered superior to the Gangari. Thus food prepared by a Sarola can be eaten by any other Brahmana but a Sarola is restricted from eating kutcha food (like boiled rice and pulses) prepared by a Gangari nor can a matrimonial alliance be entered into with a Gangari.

Most of the Rajputs, who call themselves Thakurs, are of Khasiya origin. Their main subdivisions are the Negi, Bisht and Rawat, names which have an occupational reference originally. Thus as *neg* means a perquisite, a Negi would originally have been an official of the government. Rawat a ruler or chief and Bisht one holding a grant of land from the government qualified with a local prefix such as Bagli Negi, Gorla Rawat or Kap-hola Bisht, these names signify high castes. This is partly due to the fact that the lord of the soil, the *thatwah* meaning grantee

took the local name of his fief to distinguish him from a member of the original khasiya class and partly because the khasiyas of no particular caste took such names as Negi, Rawat or Bisht. Most of the other high castes Rajputs have been categorised variously as Sajwan, Aswal or Ghurdura.

There are a few Vaishs in the district who belong chiefly to the Agarwala subcaste, are engaged in trade and business throughout the district but are found principally in the three main markets of Kotdwara, Lansdowne and Srinagar.

The Doms (*Shilpkars*) or members of the Scheduled Castes in the district numbered 58,457 in 1971. They are supposed to represent the descendants of the aborigines of this area, whom the Khasa conquerors gradually subdued. They worked as virtual slaves of the Brahmanas and Rajputs. The village community allotted a particular job to each Dom and kept him restricted to that occupation. In course of time the subdivisions hardened into occupational subcastes such as the Agari (blacksmithery), Lohar (ironsmithery), Tamta (coppersmithery), Tirwa (sword and knife sharpening), Barhai (carpentry), Orh (masonry), Raj (masonry), Auji (tailoring and drumming), Badi (dancing), etc. Thus, these subcastes have an essentially functional origin and are generally based on hereditary occupations. Originally the members of each subcaste could eat with and intermarry only among its own members and could not eat food or drink water that had been touched by anyone belonging to a lower subcaste but now the spheres of social inter-penetration have widened and food and marriage restrictions have become liberalised so that the members of various subcastes can intermarry and eat together. There is also a general tendency towards amalgamation of subcastes and a growing intermixture of occupations.

In 1920, the Arya Samaj started working in the district for the social uplift of the Doms. Most of them were converted to the Arya dharma and they came to be known as Aryas. By and large these Harijans of the district are a landless class and most of them live in perpetual indebtedness. Government is now paying attention for improving their lot by giving them land where possible, making houses for them or improving the existing ones, providing them with drinking water facilities and encouraging literacy and education among them through grants of freeships, scholarships, etc., to students. Nevertheless they are still the most backward community socially, educationally and economically.

According to the census of 1971, the tahsilwise distribution of the members of the Scheduled Castes in the district is as follows :

Tahsil	No. of persons	Males	Females
Pauri	29,768	14,232	15,536
Lansdowne	28,689	14,532	14,157
<b>Total</b>	<b>58,457</b>	<b>28,764</b>	<b>29,693</b>

**Muslim**—In 1971, there were 8,907 Muslim (6,009 males and 2,898 females) in the district. Except for a few local converts, they are mostly descendants of mediaeval immigrants from the plains, some of whom were employed by the rajas of Garhwal as shikarees and some as cooks for royal Muslim guests. The Muslims chiefly live in Kotdwara, Pauri, Lansdowne and Srinagar. There are certain groups among the Muslims of the district which are almost like occupational castes. The majority, is of the Manihar (bangle maker) sections.

**Christian**—In 1971, there were 1,298 Christians (543 males and 755 females). They are generally converts from the local population. They belong to the Roman Catholic and Protestant sects.

**Sikh**—In 1971, the number of Sikhs was 725 (444 males and 281 females). They live chiefly in Srinagar, Jaigaon, Gum, Bijoli and Kotdwara.

**Jain**—The Jains were 169 in number in 1971 (75 males and 94 females). They have migrated from the plains and belong to the Digambara sect of Jainism and to the Agrawala subcaste of the Vaishs. They usually engage in trade and business at Kotdwara, Lansdowne and Srinagar. The distinguishing characteristics of the Jains is their consideration for animal life.

**Buddhist**—In 1971, there were 55 Buddhists (20 being females) who appear to be recent immigrants.

#### RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

**Of Hindus**—The Hindus of the district practice Hinduism which embraces the entire gamut of religious experience from the crudest form of animism to monism and the most transcendent mysticism. It includes the worship of tutelary village and other deities in their various aspects—spirits and powers of natural phenomena and cosmic forces (often conceived as personal beings in the form of gods and goddesses), the attainment of magic powers, the undertaking of austerities and the identification of the *atman* (individual soul) with the ultimate reality. The principal deities that are worshipped are Brahma, Vishnu and Siva, who constitute the *trimurti* or trinity, and their consorts of the last two, Lakshmi and Parvati, the Sun, Narsimha, Rama, Sita, Krishna, Ganesha, Hanuman, Nar and Narayana and their mother Mata Murti, the Ganga, Sakti or Devi, Uma, Kali, Durga and Nanda (a favourite deity of the district). The worship of Siva is very common and has many connections with these hills. The god is generally worshipped in the form of linga, as an indication of the power behind creation and is believed to be an incarnation of the forces of nature in their most terrible form and is therefore propitiated with awe and reverence in almost every village of the district. His consort is Parvati, 'the mountain born, to whom a number of temples are dedicated in the district.

The Hindus of the district, whether Saivas or Vaishnavas (as elsewhere) are generally orthodox in their religious practices. There are also some Shaktas in the district. Generally every village has a village god and every household has a place for performing puja where the idols of the chosen deity are installed and worshipped. Worship in temples is not obligatory but many people visit them either daily or on special occasions.

Fasts are observed on certain occasions and at times *kathas* recitations from the *Gita*, *Ramcharitmanasa* and other religious texts) or *kirtan* (collective singing of devotional songs) are arranged. Reading and recitations from religious books, particularly the *Gita* and the *Ramayana*, are regular features of religious worship. Belief in ghosts and spirits who are feared and propitiated and in various superstitions is common and is indulged largely by the illiterates and the members of the backward sections of the community.

Superstitions and blind faith are interwoven in the warp and woof of the village life of the district. The aged and generally the womenfolk are believers in superstition and superstitious practices but many educated persons have a lukewarm attitude towards these traditional superstitions which have been passed on to them from generation to generation. It is a common belief that a journey in an easterly direction should commence on a Tuesday, Thursday is considered an auspicious day for going west, a journey south should commence on a Monday or a Saturday and one north only on a Friday and that if a journey is performed on a prohibited day, an accident or something untoward will happen. Educated persons often conform to some of these practices in deference to the sentiments of their elders or because no harm is done and no loss incurred by doing so.

Some people still believe that disease and epidemics are an indication of the wrath of gods and goddesses and so they perform puja and sacrifice goats for propitiating these deities and certain spirits in order to ward off the evil.

Among the local gods worshipped, particularly by the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Other Backward Classes, are Ghandial, Lalu, Goril, Kalua, Bharari, Pandavas and Achari.

The inhabitants of village Thapli in tahsil Pauri have additional deities of their own, the most favourite being the idol of Bhairon (also known as Bhoomai) which is installed on a stone platform under a pipal tree in the centre of the village, and is said to be very old. The daily routine puja is performed by a village pundit. The deity is specially worshipped during Navratri. Another place of worship is the temple of Nag Devata (the snake god) which is located in a contested locality. Mahadeo is worshipped in village Jakh specially on Sivaratri. Another temple dedicated to Mahadeo is situated in village Dharkot, about 2.4 km.

west of Thapli, the management of which is looked after by a mahant. Another temple of Mahadeo is in village Nauti about 2 km. north of Thapli.

Yet another temple, quite well known in the district, is the Jwalpa Devi temple situated at a distance of about 5 km. from Thapli on the road to Kotdwara on the right side of the river called Nayar. The goddess Jwalpa Devi, is especially worshipped by the Thaplyal Brahmins. The residents or Thapli and other neighbouring villages go to this temple and worship the goddess Bhagwati during Navratri and especially on Dasahra.

Shankaracharya, the great philosopher of the Vedanta, visited the district about the close of the eighth century A. D. and introduced the worship of the god Vasudeva a form of Vishnu and propagated the efficiency of the pilgrimages to the Himalayan shrines. He also established a monastery at Joshimath and restored the temple at Badrinath. He then went to the shrine of Kedarnath where he is said to have died at the age of 32.

**Of Muslims**—The Muslims of the district believe as do their co-religionists elsewhere that there is one God and that Muhammad is His prophet. The orthodox Muslims of the district carry out the five duties that Islam enjoins upon its followers—the recitation of the *kalma*, an expression of faith in God and in Muhammad; offering of *namaz* (prayers), five times a day, individually or collectively, preferably in a mosque; *roza* (fasting in the month of Ramadan); *hajj* to Mecca; and *zakat* (contribution in cash or kind for charitable purposes). There is a mosque at Kotdwara and another at Lansdowne.

**Of Buddhists**—The Buddhists of the district believe in the main tenent of Buddhism which is that while there is sorrow in the world, the eighthfold path of virtue (right belief, right view, right aspiration, right speech, right conduct, right living, right mindedness and right meditation) leads to the end of sorrow and to the attainment of peace, enlightenment and nirvana.

**Of Sikhs**—The Sikhs of the district follow Sikhism which is a monotheistic religion, disavowing idolatry and making no distinction of caste among its followers. They conform to what it prescribes by wearing a comb, an iron bangle, a dagger and a pair of short drawers and not cutting the hair of the body. *Granth* is their holy book.

**Of Christians**—The Christians of the district, as their co-religionists elsewhere believe in one God, His only son, Jesus Christ (the saviour of mankind), the holy spirit, the resurrection of the dead and the life everlasting. The Bible is their holy book. Their churches are located at Kotdwara and Pauri.

**Of Jains**—The Jains are the followers of the path of liberation shown to the world by the Jinas, (the conquerors and annihilators of Karmic forces). The Jains of the district believe in the

*triratna* (three-gems)—right faith, right knowledge and right conduct, which constitute the path of *moksha* (liberation). According to Jainism the universe has had no beginning and will have no end and no creator is necessary to explain the existence of the cosmos. They believe in *ahimsa* and worship in the presence of the images of their *tirthankaras* of Jainas.

### Festivals and Fairs

**Hindu**—Festivals play an important role in the Hindu way of life in the district, as elsewhere, and are spread over the entire year, the most important being briefly described below.

Rama Navami falls on the ninth day of the bright half of Chaitra to celebrate the birthday of Rama. The followers of Rama in the district observe a fast during the day, the *Ramayana* is read and recited and people gather to listen to the recitations.

Naga Panchami is celebrated on the fifth day of the bright half of Sravana to appease the *nagas* or serpent gods. Figures of snakes are drawn in flour on wooden boards and are worshipped by the family by offering milk, flowers and rice to them.

Rakshabandhan is traditionally associated with the Brahmanas and falls on the last day of Sravana. On this occasion a sister ties a *raksha sutra* (thread in token of protection), commonly known as a *rakhi*, round the right wrist of a brother in token of the protection she expects to receive from him. Fairs are held on this occasion.

Janamastami is observed on the eighth day of Krishna Paksha, the dark fortnight of Bhadra, to celebrate the birth anniversary of Krishna. Worship takes place at midnight when he is said to have taken birth and the representations of the infant god are installed in cradles of which people throng to have a glimpse (*jhanki*). Devotional songs are sung and sweets are distributed at this time when the day long fasts are broken.

The Dasahra festival of Navratri is observed in the month of Asvina from the first to the tenth day of the Shukla Paksha (the bright fortnight of the month). *Durga Saptshati* is recited by the village pundits. Goats are sacrificed on the tenth day at the altars of the goddess Durga, the dreaded incarnation of Parvati. Dasahra, which marks the culmination of the festival symbolises the triumph of good over evil and is in honour of Rama who invoked the help of Durga, the goddess of war, to defeat the demon king, Ravana.

Divali (or Dipavali), the festival of lights is another major festival of the Hindus. It celebrates Rama's return to his capital after his long exile. It also heralds the approach of winter and marks the end of the rainy season. On the night of the festival every house is illuminated with small earthen lamps and there is

rejoicing every where. Lakshmi the goddess of wealth and prosperity is worshipped at night. No farts are observed on this day as this is a festival of rejoicing and feasting. For traders and businessmen Divali marks the end of a fiscal year and they pray for prosperity in the new year. On the following day Govardhana puja is performed. A big heap of cowdung is worshipped, apparently because *gobar*, cow dung, is *dhan*, (wealth), being used as a fertilizer in the fields. Cows are also worshipped at night.

Makar Sankranti is a bathing festival which falls in Magha either on January 13 or 14 when people take a holy bath in the Alaknanda and big fairs are held at Rudraprayag.

Sivaratri falls on the fourteenth day of the dark half of Phalguna and is observed in honour of Siva. Hindus fast through out the day and a vigil is kept at night when the deity is worshipped. The Siva temples are specially decorated and illuminated and large numbers of devotees offer water and flowers to the symbols and images of Siva and sing devotional songs in his praise. Big fairs are held on this occasion at most of the Siva temples of the district.

Holi, the major festival of the Hindus, held to celebrate the victory of good over evil which is symbolised by the demon goddess, Holika, has a wide appeal and is observed on the full-moon day of Phalguna. Women start singing songs of the season from the eleventh day of the dark fortnight till the day of the full moon. A Holi bonfire with lot of firewood is not burnt as in the plains. Instead only a flag or banner, fixed on Ekadashi day on a thin pole of *Mehlu* wood, is burnt on the full-moon night, and the rite is locally known as *Chharoli*. The ashes are smeared by people on each other's faces. *Gulal* (coloured powder) is also freely smeared and coloured water is sprinkled on each other on the next day in a spirit of gaiety and continue in this way for a week. This is essentially a festival of colour in which everyone, from the highest to the lowest and from the oldest to the youngest, participates with pleasure. Old rivalries tend to be forgotten and people embrace each other warmly as a token of good feeling.

Many big fairs are held in the district. Fairs play an important part in the social, religious and economic life of the district, the important ones being mentioned below.

A fair is held at the temple of Sapta Mukheshwar Mahadeo near village Aligaon in tahsil Pauri on the occasions of Sivaratri and Makar Sankranti. Goods and commodities from Kotdwara, Najibabad and other places are brought to the mela for sale. Games and sports are also organized by the village folk. Those who desire the birth of a son let loose a young bull in the name of the god Mahadeo.

Another fair is held at the temple of Mundeshwar Mahadeo in the month of Jyaistha, about 8 km. to the west of the village

Thapli in tahsil Pauri. Young male buffaloes are also sacrificed at the temple and small shops are set up in the fair.

About 14 km. to the south of the village Thapli is the temple of Ekeshwar Mahadeo where fairly well-attended fair is held on Bikhpati Sankranti. New grains of the Rabi crop are offered to an idol of Siva before any grain from the new crop is consumed.

Some villagers also visit the temple of Kyon Kaleshwar, situated at a height of about 1,524 m. above sea-level, about 2.4 km. from Pauri. The temple holds a commanding view of the Kyonkala peak. The fair is managed by a *mahant* and is held on a large scale on the occasion of Sivaratri.

The most important fair of the locality is the one held at Srinagar on Baikunth Chaturdashi and the following day, about 51 km. from village Thapli. Throughout the night of Baikunth Chaturdashi women desirous of having a child (usually a son) stand around the idol of Kamleshwar Mahadeo within the precincts of the temple with ghee-burning lamps in their hands. Women who are unable to stand for the whole night are replaced by their husbands for a few hours. Those who can stand till dawn with their lamps still lit, worship the idcl to get its blessings.

The annual planning and development exhibition of district Garhwal is also held on this occasion.

**Muslim**—A brief account of the most important festivals observed according to the Islamic lunar calendar by the Muslims of the district, is given below :

Barawafat, the birthday of the prophet Muhammad, is celebrated on the twelfth day of Rabi-al-awwal when alms are distributed and Muslims gather to listen to discourses (Milad) on the prophet's life.

Shab-e-Barat is celebrated on the night of the fourteenth day of Shaban when prayers (*safra*) are offered for the peace of the souls of deceased relatives and are usually recited over sweets and bread which are then distributed.

Id-ul-Fitr falls on the first of the month of Shawwal when thanks giving prayers are offered in masques by the Muslims of the district for the successful completion of the fasts of the previous month of Ramazan.

Id-uz-Zuha (or Bakrid) falls on the tenth day of Zilhijja to commemorate the occasion when the prophet Ibrahim submitted himself to the will of God. Men attend morning prayers in mosques and sheep and goats are sacrificed in God's name.

Giarahween Sharif is a festival of special importance for the Sunnis of the district and is observed on the eleventh day of the month of Rabi-us-sani in honour of Abdul Qadir Jilani, an early Muslim saint of Baghdad, who claimed descent from the prophet Muhammad. Prayers, sweets and flowers are offered in his memory on this occasion.

Muharram is an occasion for mourning rather than a festival as the first ten days of the month of that name commemorate the tragedy of Karbala which witnessed the martyrdom of Imam Husain and his companions.

**Christian**—The important festivals of the Christians of the district are Christmas, which falls on December 25, and celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ; Good Friday, which commemorates His crucifixion and Easter, which celebrates His resurrection.

**Sikh**—The important festivals that are celebrated by the Sikhs of the district are the birthdays of their Gurus—Nanak and Govind Singh—when congregational prayers are held and the *Granth* is read. The other festivals celebrated by them are Baisakhi and Lohri.

**Jain**—The Jains of the district celebrate the birth and nirvana anniversaries of Mahavira, their twenty fourth *tirthankara*. *Paryushan* (a traditional festival) is celebrated every year during the last ten days of Bhadra and *Ashtanhika* (also a traditional eight-day festival) three times a year, the third celebration, held during the last eight days of Kartika, being the most important.

**Buddhist**—The principal festival of the Buddhists of the district is Buddha Purnima on which day the Buddha took birth, got enlightenment and attained nirvana. On this occasion they worship and recite verses from the Pali *Tripiṭaka*.

A list of some important fairs held in the district is given in Statement II at the end of the chapter.

#### SOCIAL LIFE

##### Property and Inheritance

The laws governing succession and inheritance of property are the same in the district as in other parts of the State. With the enforcement in the district on July 1, 1965 of the Kumaon and Uttarakhand Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1960, the partition, succession, devolution, transfer, etc., of agricultural holdings is regulated by this Act, the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, applying to non-agricultural property.

The Muslims are governed by their personal law of succession and inheritance and the Christians by the Indian Succession Act, 1925 for non-agricultural property.

The pattern of the family in the district is mostly patriarchal and joint, which is gradually breaking up under the impact of changing social and economic conditions and the growing individualistic outlook of the younger people. Most of the people of the district depend upon agriculture but land by itself is not sufficient now to meet the requirements of the growing population. Many young people (mostly men) therefore leave their homes and go out in search of better employment opportunities and to looking for employment in various fields. Till recently the people of these parts have preserved their own culture, traditions, folk-lore, folk-songs and folk-dances against the inroads of modernisation but now economic exigencies are slowly forcing the younger generation, particularly the men, to leave their villages and look for jobs elsewhere.

## Marriage and Morals

The following statement shows the distribution of the population of the district in 1971 according to marital status in various age groups.

Age group	Total Population	Unmarried		Married		Widowess		Divorced or separated	
		Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0-9	1,56,507	78,684	77,828	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-14	74,069	35,652	38,017	225	2,020	5	—	—	80
15-19	53,181	23,929	14,542	1,241	13,409	—	30	—	30
20-24	37,472	7,152	635	7,997	21,568	25	65	—	30
25-29	34,860	3,669	385	10,176	20,245	105	260	10	10
30-34	36,030	1,403	45	15,367	18,240	220	715	20	20
35-39	34,593	818	65	14,438	17,083	520	1,659	—	19
40-44	26,324	274	35	15,541	12,837	601	2,226	10	—
45-49	22,474	110	—	9,236	9,616	676	2,826	10	—
50-54	22,586	45	—	9,278	7,558	919	4,776	—	10
55-59	15,618	30	—	6,826	3,934	988	3,840	—	—
60-64	17,602	50	30	6,969	3,352	1513	5,688	—	—
65-69	10,084	30	20	4,162	1,289	967	3,606	—	—
70- & above	11,714	30	15	4,211	779	2108	4,461	—	10
Age not stated	14	8	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	5,53,028	1,51,884	1,29,632	1,00,473	1,31,940	8,647	30,52	50	200

**Of Hindus**—Among the Hindus marriage is considered to be a sacrament and is celebrated by performing the rites prescribed by the scriptures, though in practice, customs and traditions (which vary from caste to caste and sometimes from family to family within a caste or subcaste) play a big part in regulating the marriage ceremony.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, which prescribes the minimum age for marriage as 18 for the bridegroom and 15 for the bride, early marriages are still common in the district.

Generally the marriage is arranged by the parents of the bridegroom and bride. In the district two forms of marriage are observed, the Brahma and the Asura. The former, commonly known as Kanyadan, is that according to which the bride is bestowed on the bridegroom with presents and a dowry. It is confined to the Brahmana, Rajput and Vaish castes. In certain backward parts such as the village of Thapli (tahsil Pauri) the form of marriage that has been in vogue is that of mutual sale and purchase, the parents of the bride demanding a certain amount of money before the marriage is performed. The bride's father provides her with jewellery, clothes and meets other expenses which are incurred on the performance of the marriage ceremony. In this form of marriage, the bridegroom does not go to fetch the bride but the bride is conveyed to his house where the marriage ceremony is gone through in a cursory way and is termed the marriage by Ganesh Puja. In some of the parganas in lower Garhwal the practice of selling a grown-up daughter to the highest bidder is still prevalent.

### स्वयमेव जयने

Before the date of the marriage, which is fixed by mutual consent, a document, locally known as *syah patta*, is sent by the bridegroom's party to the bride's. On the date fixed for the marriage ceremony, the *barat* (bridegroom's marriage party) starts for the bride's house with the bridegroom seated in a *dandi* or *palki*. The party is received on the outskirts of the village. The actual marriage ceremony takes place at night in the presence of friends and relatives and it consists of *saptapadi* (seven steps) taken by the couple round the sacred fire and the recitation of the marriage vows by both, after the recitation of holy verses or *mantras* and the performance of *havan*. The *kanyadan sanskar* or the giving away of the bride to the bridegroom is performed by the bride's father. On the next day, the marriage party returns with the bride (who sits in a *palki*) with a party of *Bajjis* beating drums. Till about a decade ago, according to local custom, the *Shilpkars* were not allowed to use the *dola* for the bride or the *palki* for the bridegroom but now due mostly to the agitation organised by the Arya Samaj, such restrictions are being done away with.

A common form of marriage in vogue among many Garhwalis but particularly among the *Shilpkars* and to some extent within some of the upper castes also, is marriage by purchase of

the bride, locally known as *taka ka byao* or marriage for money. This practice is slowly being given up and marriage by performing *saptapadi*, even when some bride money has been charged, is coming into practice.

The practice of polygamy also exists among the villagers who depend mainly on agriculture which requires a great deal of manual labour. As the young and able-bodied seek employment outside the village, the womenfolk are left to cope with the ordeal of cultivation and possessing a number of wives becomes an asset. Thus, polygamy seems to have originated because of the necessity of work forced upon the cultivator.

The system of widow marriage is not prevalent in the district though the custom of a man taking into his house as his wife a deceased elder brother's widow (*bhauj*) is common and is also followed by members of the high castes in which case the woman is regarded as a lawfully married wife. The children of such a union have by usage all the rights and privileges of legitimacy. No formal ceremonies are performed to mark such an occasion.

Amongst the Doms, a widow is at liberty to take up residence with any man she chooses in her own caste, without any loss of rights to her offspring. A widow is not subjected to any sort of hardships. She is treated with sympathy and help is rendered to her in her family. Women are considered to be particularly valuable and wives are not allowed to go out of the family on the death of the husband but are made over to his younger brother or, if there is none, to a cousin or other near relative.

In the district women occupy a very important position in the house and play a pivotal role in shaping the economy and the destiny of the household because they work harder than their husbands or other men relatives. They do all the domestic chores and look after the cattle, the granary and the fields. Except for actual ploughing in the field, almost all the agricultural operations are conducted by them irrespective of the hard labour involved. This includes transporting on their heads manure from the refuse dumps to the fields and fodder and fuel from the hills or forests to the cowshed or hearth. They have a very hard lot and their **husbands are not equal participants in their drudgery.**

It is not uncommon in the district for a man to take another man's wife or widow to live with him. Sometimes a girl is bought and is kept as a wife without any ceremony. Such a wife is known as *dhanti* and her husband as *dhant*. The connexion is almost of a permanent character. The children of a *dhanti* are admittedly illegitimate but they are included in the *biradari* (community).

**Dowry**—The giving and accepting of dowry has been made illegal by the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, but the practice still

persists in the district as elsewhere, particularly among the high castes although not in the undesirable forms prevalent in the plains. Parents give a dowry in the form of clothes, jewellery and household effects, at the time of their daughter's marriage but they do so of their own free will and in accordance with their status and financial condition. The Khasas and Doms on the other hand, charge money as a bride price from the bridegroom.

Muslim marriages are performed according to the Islamic law as is the case in other parts of the State and the Christians under the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, as amended in 1952, in case a church marriage is not desired.

**Civil Marriage**—The Special Marriage Act, 1954, provides for the performance and registration of marriage by a marriage officer appointed by the government in the district for this purpose. Caste and religion are no bar to such a marriage nor are any rites or ceremonies necessary. From 1969 to 1975 only one civil marriage was registered in the district under this Act.

**Widow Marriage**—In spite of the Hindu widow's Re-marriage Act, 1856, which declares widow marriage among Hindus legal, the Brahmanas, Rajputs and Vaishs of the district still disapprove of such marriages and among them a widow hardly ever marries. Among the Khasas and the Doms no social stigma is attached to the marriage of widows. If she so chooses, a widow, may marry her deceased husband's brother, any other relative or an outsider.

**Divorce**—The dissolution of marriage is not customary among the Hindus of the district, except among the Shilpkars. The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, provides for divorce under certain circumstances and conditions. The Muslim law permits the husband to divorce the wife on his making payment of the *mehr*. The Dissolution of Muslim Marriages Act, 1939, also gives the wife, under certain conditions, the right to claim the dissolution of her marriage.

From 1970 to 1974, the number of divorce cases referred to the court was 26, divorce being permitted in one case only.

**Prostitution and Traffic in Women**—In this district there have been no prosecutions for prostitution or for traffic in women in recent years nor is there any organised centre in the district where such activities are carried on.

**Gambling**—Gambling is not unknown in the district but is only indulged in occasionally as a sort of pastime or on special festivals. The number of prosecutions launched in the district in 1969 and 1970-71 were 2 and 7 respectively, in 1971-72 and 1972-73 they were 7 and 4 respectively and in 1973-74 they were 2

## HOME LIFE

**Housing**—In 1971, there were 96,018 occupied residential house in the district of which 90,171 were in the rural and 5,847 in the urban areas. The average number of persons in a household in the rural areas was 4.48 and in the urban 4.77 as against 4.5 and 3.9 in 1961. There are 17.1 per cent single-roomed, 42.2 per cent two-roomed, 8.4 per cent three-roomed and 22.3 per cent four-roomed houses. Only 9.5 per cent have five or more rooms. There are pavement dwellers and people who sleep out-of-doors in the towns. According to the census records of 1971, there were 849 houseless persons, 773 being males. Of these 224 were in tahsil Pauri and 625 in tahsil Lansdowne.

The following statement shows the classification of households by their size and tenure status in the district in 1971 :



## Household Classified by Size and Tenure Status

District	Tenure status	Total of census households	Households with number of persons						No. of persons unspecified
			One person	Two persons	Three persons	Four persons	Five persons	Six persons	
<b>Rural/Urban</b>									
District (total)	Owned and Rented	1,20,155	11,030	13,815	17,325	19,740	18,680	38,450	515
Owned	Owned	1,07,965	8,785	11,545	15,630	18,170	17,430	35,895	510
Rented	Rented	12,190	2,845	2,270	1,645	1,570	1,250	2,555	5
<b>Rural</b>									
Rural (total)	Owned and Rented	1,13,545	10,570	12,895	16,500	18,920	17,965	36,180	515
Owned	Owned	1,05,755	8,630	11,415	15,390	17,875	17,155	34,780	510
Rented	Rented	7,790	1,940	1,480	1,110	1,045	810	1,400	5
<b>Urban</b>									
Urban (total)	Owned and Rented	6,610	1,959	920	825	820	715	2,270	—
Owned	Owned	2,210	155	130	240	295	275	1,115	—
Rented	Rented	4,400	955	780	585	525	440	1,135	—



**Houses**—The houses in the district have not been built according to any planned scheme but have been put up haphazardly in clusters on ground which has been levelled in places where water springs are accessible or on the banks of the rivers in the valleys. The houses are built of stone and timber and are generally double-storeyed, a few having three to five storeys, the very low rooms on the ground floor (usually about 1.8 m. high) being used for stalling the family cattle.

A stone staircase or a wooden ladder leads to the upper storey which is used for sitting and sleeping, etc., the cooking being done in a corner of the room. The height of the upper storey is generally 2.1 m. and the roof consists of a sloping structure of timber covered with quartzite slabs locally called *patala*, with heavy terraces of mud to keep them in position. The roofs of some of the houses belonging to the well-to-do are covered with corrugated galvanised iron sheets instead of slates. Its quartzite slabs which are considered to be superior to iron sheets as roofing material because they are locally available, last longer and cannot be blown off in a strong wind. The walls of the houses are built of stone mortared with mud or cement.

The ground storey usually has a veranda in front of a dark and small room which has a small window at the back and the upper storey may have a veranda called *dandyala* or *tibari*.

Most of the houses in the villages have no ventilators and the rooms are stuffy and dark. The upper storey is meant for human occupation but there is no separate kitchen, the food being cooked in one corner of the living room. There is a general belief that kitchen smoke and dung both work as deterrents against certain pests such as borers and white-ants and keep safe the timber used in the building.

In constructing a house, the people of the village gather together and in the traditional manner of proffering mutual help, fetch all the timber, etc., required. When the building is completed, *havan* and *puja* are performed and a *grah bhoj* (house feast) is given to friends relatives and Brahmanas before the actual occupation.

**Furniture and Decoration**—In the district, as elsewhere, the taste and the monetary and social status of the people determine the items, quality and quantity of the furniture, furnishings and other accessories. The well-to-do have drawing room suits, dining tables, chairs, almirahs, dressing tables, beds, transistors, radio sets, etc., and the poor manage with divans, string cots, *morhas* (chairs made of reeds), etc. Some have a few more articles of furniture such as few chairs, stools and tables. Persons without bedsteads and charpoys sleep on the floor or on mats or blankets. Skins of hill goats are also used for sitting on. There are hardly any furnishings or decorations worth the name but crude clay or wooden toys, pictures of mountain peaks, the important shrines in the district and some Hindu deities are to be seen in hindu homes.

Meals are usually taken sitting on the floor or on wooden boards or small carpets and food is eaten out of metal utensils. Those who are not orthodox often sit at tables and use crockery as well.

**Food**—The majority of Garhwalis, particularly the Kshatriyas, are non-vegetarian by tradition and necessity. In actual practice the frequency of eating meat and fish is limited because of the high price of these articles of food.

The morning meal consists of a glass of tea and a couple of chapatis of *mandua* (a coarse grain) or a mixture of *mandua* and barley flour. The midday meal comprises boiled rice or *jhanggoora* and lentil, pulse or *tore* or *jholi*. The last meal of the day, which corresponds to dinner, is made up of chapatis and dal or locally grown vegetables in season like potato, beans, pumpkins, etc. An edible root locally known as *tairu* (like the potato) is also eaten and *urd* dal is also consumed, though not often. Tea and tobacco are popular and are indulged in frequently. Only those who can afford it can use milk and ghee. The region has abundant game and those who are fond of hunting kill pigs, pheasants and other animals and birds particularly partridge and *chakor* to augment the meal. On festivals pakka food (such as *halva*, *puris*, etc.) is generally prepared. On the whole the people are healthy and sturdy, the fresh air of the Himalayas apparently being responsible for this state of their health.

**Jewellery**—Till some years ago, men used to wear the *bal* or *mu-ki* in the ear lobes but the practice seems to have been given up now and men now wear a ring or a chain (round the neck). Nearly all women wear a nose *bulak* (pendant) and those who are married consider the wearing of a *nath* (nose-ring), an auspicious necessity. In her ears almost every woman wears several *bal*s (ear-rings), usually made of silver. Around the neck a thick, heavy silver *hansuli* (collar) is worn as also one or more necklaces of silver or coral beads. On the arms are worn *kare* (thick silver bracelets) and on the feet *nupur* (silver anklets). *Chooris* (bangles) are worn on the wrists. *mundris* (rings) on the fingers, *paunta*, *jhanwar* and *paijeb* (all silver ornaments) worn round the ankles, *bichhwa* or small silver rings worn (by married women only) on the toes and *mala* (necklace) made of rupee coins are also popular among the women of the district. The articles of jewellery are worn by women of all castes, the quality, etc., being in accordance with their means. The poor have to remain satisfied with silver ornaments. The use of jewellery in daily life is on the decrease but at the time of fairs and festivals or religious and social functions, women wear whatever they can, have, or think necessary for the occasion.

**Dress**—The dress of the villagers has to suit the various seasons of the year. Woollen clothes of dark brown, grey or black are worn nearly all the year round because of the cold climate.

Men wear a coloured cotton or woollen cap on the head. Usually a shirt and a cotton or woollen jacket, known as *sadri* or *vasket*, is worn and tight fitting cotton or woollen pyjamas and by some, trousers. Pullovers and woollen coats are also worn. Women wear a cotton sari over a petticoat and instead of a blouse a long-sleeved shirt, a slight modification of the shirt worn by men. During the winter, woollen clothes (jackets, pyjamas or trousers, etc.) are worn and woollen shawls are used. The *angra*, a sort of double-breasted jacket, is also worn in place of the shirt. In rural areas most of the women still wear the long full shirt, tight fitting long-sleeved jacket, a full, long skirt (*ghaghra*) and an *Orhni* (long scarf for covering the head and shoulders). Women and children do not ordinarily wear shoes though some men do.

#### COMMUNAL LIFE

**Recreation**—The recreations and entertainments of the hill people are very few and far between. Living as they do in the mountains and mostly in places that are not easily accessible, the people of the district have only their traditional and rather limited avocations. But they have been able to preserve their culture, folk-lore, folk-songs and folk-dances, the last a distinctive feature of the district. Dances in Garhwal villages provide a pleasant pastime for the village people and also reflect their cultural heritage. There are variations from place to place in rhythm and movement as there are no specific rules regarding the execution of the movements. One such dance, known as Pandava Nritya, is performed (in winter) to the singing of the participants who are always men, no musical instruments being used. Another dance, the Chhanchhari, also a village dance, is accompanied only by singing and is performed in the spring by both men and women. The songs are usually in story form, telling of the woes of a bride in her new home or of the sentiments of a wife whose husband has gone out looking for a job, etc.

Folk-songs are usually traditional and are usually sung by women, who work very hard in the fields from morning till night in all kinds of weather. During the month of Chaitra the women of the village gather at a central place and sing traditional songs which generally relate deeds of heroism and love and speak of the hard life which they have to lead in the hills.

Festivals and fairs have a special diversional value for the village folk. Both men and women walk long distances to participate in the festivities of a fair.

A simple form of being entertained, for both men and women, is in congregating in small groups when time permits, to talk to each other about things that concern them—their village, family and community life, etc. Sometimes they indulge in narrating stories. Most men enjoy smoking the hookah, which is passed on from hand to hand for a pull, a custom that might help in the maintenance of affinity and brotherhood among the various caste groups among themselves.

Mahila Mangal Dals, Nav Yuvak Mangal Dals and Bal Mangal Dals functioning as agencies of social, educational and cultural uplift also provide recreation for the people of the district. As there are no large level grounds, the common sports of the district are those which do not require much space such as *kabaddi*, *gullidanda* and tug-of-war. Football, volley-ball and badminton are also played in the urban areas. Among the popular indoor games are chess, carom and cards.

There are two cinema houses at Pauri, two at Srinagar and one at Lansdowne, the total seating capacity being about 1,022 persons. The information department in the district occasionally holds, in different localities, documentary film shows, puppet shows, dramatic performances and other recreational programmes. *Kisan melas* (peasant fairs) and development exhibitions are also held annually in different parts of the district. People also arrange open-air performances like Ramlila, Pandavalila, Krishna-lila, etc.

#### IMPACT OF ZAMINDARI ABOLITION ON SOCIAL LIFE

The Kumaun and Uttarakhand Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1960, came into operation in the district on July 1, 1965, abolished zamindari and replaced the various classes of tenure holders that existed in the district by a simple and uniform system with two main classes of tenure holders, the *bhumidhar* and the *sirdar*. It has also brought about a significant change in the social and economic life of the people by ensuring the rights of the cultivators and has removed the fear of ejectment or undue increase in revenue and *behaar* (forced, unpaid or underpaid labour) has ceased to exist. With the abolition of zamindari and the emergence of new social and economic forces, the tillers of the soil are not exploited any more. The landlords, both big and small, for their part, have also been hard hit by the abolition of the zamindari system. Those entirely dependent on their rent-rolls, especially the smaller zamindars, are worse off but have had to adapt themselves to the changed circumstances and have taken to tilling the land in their capacity of *bhumidhars* or *sirdars*. Some have taken up politics, business, etc. The tenants who have become *bhumidhars* and *sirdars* have gained in status and have become masters of their land. The elimination of the system of intermediaries between the State and the cultivators has brought the last named into direct contact with the State and has imbued them with a sense of self respect and dignity, the land revenue now being paid direct to the State.

The old social system which was based on semi-feudal traditions in which the zamindars acted as the guardian of the village community, has also more or less disappeared. In those days the big landlord was the mainstay of men of letters, musicians, artists, craftsmen, etc., and actively supported and often participated in local religious and cultural activities.

## STATEMENT I

## Area and Population

Reference Page No. 40

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## Population

District/Tahsil	Area (sq. km.)		1971		1961		Population		
			No. of Persons	Males	Females	No. of Persons	Males	Females	
	1971	1961							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
District total	5,440.0	N. A.	5,53,028	2,61,054	2,91,974	4,82,327	2,22,892	2,59,435	
Rural	N. A.	N. A.	5,18,181	2,39,837	2,78,344	4,54,829	2,04,886	2,49,943	
Urban	61.8	61.8	34,847	21,217	13,630	27,498	18,006	9,492	
Tahsil Pauri									
Total	N. A.	N. A.	2,05,163	93,470	1,11,693	1,77,868	78,678	99,190	
Rural	N. A.	N. A.	1,90,139	84,541	1,05,598	1,66,818	71,936	94,882	
Urban	50.5	50.5	15,024	8,929	6,095	11,050	6,742	4,308	
Tahsil Lansdowne									
Total	N. A.	N. A.	3,47,865	1,67,584	1,80,281	3,04,459	1,44,214	1,60,245	
Rural	N. A.	N. A.	3,28,042	1,55,296	1,72,746	2,88,011	1,32,950	1,55,061	
Urban	11.3	11.3	19,823	12,288	7,535	16,448	11,264	5,184	

GARHWAL DISTRICT

STATEMENT II  
Fairs

Reference Page No. 51

Village/town	Name	Date	Approximate attendance
1	2	3	4

## TAHSIL PAURI

Dewal	Jaor Dali	Vaisakha, krishna 30	2,000
Dewalgarh	Dewalgarh-ka Mela	Vaisakha	4,000
Falswari	Mansar	Kartika, sukla	3,000
Ghandiyal	Gind-ke-ka mela	Magha, krishna 11	4,000
Kathur	Jhankar	Vaisakha, sukla 1	2,000
Khela	Jhankar	Vaisakha, sukla 1	2,000
Kot	Jhankar	Vaisakha, krishna 1	2,000
Kota	Khuda-ka-mela	Vaisakha, krishna 1	4,000
Lesera	Kendar-ka-mela	Vaisakha, krishna 14	2,000
Mau Goan/(Vyasghat Benelsyun)	Vishwat Sankranti	Vaisakha, krishna 1	4,000
Pabsola	Mundheshwar	Jyaistha, krishna	10,000
Pasundakhal	Makar-ka-mela	Magha, krishna 11-12	2,000
Pauri	Janmastami	Bhadra, krishna 8	0,000
Pauri	Sivaratri	Chaitra, krishna 13	4,000
Ree Danda (Kandwalsyun)	Kendar-ka mela	Vaisakha, krishna 14	2,000
Sabdar Khal (Kandwalsyun)	Sabdar Khal	Vaisakha, sukla 1	2,000
Srinagar	Vishwat Sankranti	Chaitra	4,000
Srinagar	Baikunth Chaturdashi	Kartika, sukla 14	4,000
Sunder Gaon	Bindeshwari alias Binsar	Kartika, sukla 15	10,000

[continued]

1

2

3

4

## TAHSIL LANSDOWNE

Bandun	Bandun	Jyaistha, krishna 30	3,000
Banjya Devi	Banjya Devi	Vaisakha, krishna 9	2,000
Bironkhel	Vaisakhi	Vaisakha, krishna 1	4,000
Chauksera	Chauksera-ka-mela	Asadha, krishna 6	2,000
Chamatha Kandia	Malla Dhauntyal	Jyaistha, krishna 30	2,500
Chopra	Bileshwar Mahadeo	Vaisakha, krishna 8	3,000
Dabrisain	Dabrisain	Vaisakha, krishna 3	2,000
Dada Mandi	Gindi-Ka-mela	Pausa, krishna 11	2,500
Dangla	Kangla	Pausa, krishna 11	5,000
Dangla	Dangla	Magha, sukla 5	5,000
Devarari Devi	Devarri Devi	Vaisakha, krishna 7	2,000
Dhandhor	Kalika Devi	Jyaistha, sukla 9	3,000
Dhauntyal	Dhauntyal-ka-mela	Jyaistha, krishna 2	3,500
Digolikhel	Vaisakhi	Vaisakha, krishna 2	2,000
Gadoli	Devra Khal	Jyaistha, krishna 1	2,700
Jethogaon	Nausin Devi	Vaisakha, krishna 2	3,000
Kandai	Kandai	Jyaistha, krishna 5	4,000
Kandiya Talla	Kandiya	Vaisakha, krishna 9	3,000
Kathghar	Gindi-ka-mela	Pausa, krishna 11	6,000
Khatalgarh Mahadeo	Vaisakhi	Vaisakha, krishna 1	4,000
Kulain Khand	Vaisakhi Devi	Vaisakha, krishna 3	2,000
Kunjoli Kaudiya	Kunjoli	Vaisakha, sukla	2,500
Mahargaon	Mahagaon-ka-mela	Jyaistha, sukla	3,000
Mawakot	Gandi-ka-mela	Pausa, krishna	2,000
Muchhelgaon	Muchhelgaon	Jyaistha, sukla 15	5,000
Palasu	Vaisakhi Devi	Vaisakha, krishna 3	2,000
Pand	Pand	Vaisakha, krishna 13	2,500
Patal	Ekeshwar	Vaisakha, krishna 1	5,000
Sanglakot	Sanglakoli-mela	Jyaistha, krishna 9	2,000
Sold Mahadeo	Makar Sankranti	Magha, sukla 5	3,000
Thalnadi	Gindi-ka-mela	Pausa, krishna 11	2,000
Timla Kholi	Kainkha	Vaisakha, krishna 1	2,000

## CHAPTER IV

### AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

#### Land Reclamation and Utilisation

Being in the Himalayan region, the district of Garhwal contains little level ground. The slope of the hills is usually too steep for cultivation without terracing. Finer soils are to be found only in the river valleys where they widen out. In order to reclaim some land stones are built up into a wall at the lower part of the slope and excavation done at the upper to fill up the hollow until a level stretch is formed. The walls are raised gradually in subsequent years to retain the silt. Another way of reclamation, called *katil*, consisted of cutting and burning the shrubs and bushes in certain areas, using such patches for raising crops for a year or two and then letting them remain fallow for a number of years to let shrubs and bushes grow up again but this method has been almost given up as the practice was found to be very injurious to the soil in the long run.

Agriculture is the main occupation of the people of the district. From a study of the occupational structure of the economy of the district, it is obvious that 80.9 per cent of the working force was engaged in agriculture and allied activities during 1971. According to the census of 1971, the total number of persons residing in the rural areas of the district was 5,18,181 representing about 94 per cent of the total population. The general reliance on agriculture is not because it is highly developed or remunerative but because other avenues of occupation are less developed and employment opportunities in non-agricultural sectors are limited.

सत्यमेव जयते

Those portions of the district which are covered with snow for the greater part of the year, have no distinct agronomic value. Some parts are too craggy and precipitous for cultivation; some, at higher altitudes, lie at levels at which the cultivation of land cannot be economically gainful and there are still others reserved for forestry. Detailed and accurate agricultural statistics are not available for this mountainous district. Only approximate figures of those areas that are arable and of those that are actually cultivated can be had.

Due to the rapid increase in population and the resultant pressure on land, the need for more food-grains has extended cultivation even to those hillsides which could not be utilised, terraced and cultivated in the past. Although cultivation of a struggling nature has been extended almost to its full limits, the demand for *nayabad* (literally 'new cultivation' or 'land hitherto uncultivated') is constantly increasing.

The following statement shows the figures pertaining to land utilisation in the district in the year 1970 :

Type of area	Area in ha.	percentage of total area
Under forests	1,41,686	25.70
Under cultivable fallow land	24,269	4.40
<b>Under uncultivable and barren waste</b>	<b>46,565</b>	<b>8.40</b>
Under orchards	1,917	0.35
Under pastures	47,282	8.65
<b>Net cultivable area</b>	<b>1,07,484</b>	<b>19.50</b>
Double cropped area	58,275	—
Gross cropped area	1,65,759	—
Land not available for cultivation	1,76,177	33.00

Figures of land utilisation in Garhwal and the corresponding figures of other districts in the hill region of Uttar Pradesh are not strictly comparable with the State averages, as the former are conventional figures which are repeated from year to year due to the non-availability of up to date and reliable statistics. The table shows that the ratio of the double-cropped area to the net area sown is about 54.2 per cent which, in view of the mountainous terrain of the district, is fairly high. This indicates that the cultivators of the district are not averse to intensive cultivation in those areas where the land is level and a timely supply of water is assured. Most of the double-cropped area lies in the *bhabar* region which is at the foot of the hills and has almost the characteristics of a plain. Double cropping is also carried on in the areas surrounding the river valleys and other areas with heights up to 1,219 m. The scarcity of arable land has also put a sort of compulsion in the people to get the maximum produce from whatever they possess.

### Culturable Land, Waste Land and Precarious Tracts

In the past, the unassessed area was classed as old fallow (fallow land of more than 3 years' standing), cultivable waste and unculturable waste. Land which was previously measured but was found to be out of cultivation was termed *benap* (unmeasured) and was included under forests, pastures and grazing grounds.

Large portions of waste land have for centuries been taken to be parts of adjacent villages but not actually included in their recorded area. Almost all such tracts which have an elevation exceeding 2,400 m. are generally taken to be unfit for cultivation and suitable only as pastures.

Agriculture in the hills depends on the composition of the soil, the position of field (its height above sea-level and its aspect),

the presence or absence of irrigation (besides rainfall), temperature and snowfall. The position of the fields in relation to sunshine and the availability of irrigation facilities also determines the success or otherwise of agricultural operations. Usually cultivation can be done up to an altitude of about 1,981 m. Chuwa (a species of *Amaranthus paniculatus*) can be grown up to about 2,438 m. and wheat up to 2,743 m. A field on the shady side of the hill (especially if bordered by forests) has thicker and richer soil and retains moisture better than if it is on the sunny side. The areas situated on the northern side in the great chain of Himalayan peaks, are (in some degree) subject to the influence of snow and shade. In these parts people place little reliance on products of the soil as a means of livelihood because there is only one harvest in the year. The crops are damaged completely in the years when snow begins to fall too early. The severity of the winters, which are usually accompanied by heavy snow in places of high altitude, and the need for large quantities of manure, render cultivation a hazardous undertaking in such areas.

### IRRIGATION

To a large extent cultivation in the hills also depends on the availability of irrigation facilities. Fields which have a perennial supply of water sufficient to flood them to a depth of 5 to 7 cm. are called *sera* and rice can be grown in them in April. A second class of *sera* land in which water is less plentiful is utilised as a nursery where rice seedlings are raised and later transplanted in June. Land, often not well levelled, which can be irrigated occasionally from *guls* (channels) and is not suitable for rice, is called *panchar*. Unirrigated land is called *ukhar*. Of 1,07,484 ha. of cultivated land, only 6,800 ha. are irrigated but even in this area irrigation is not assured, the area of assured irrigated being only 4,500 ha. Thus only 5 per cent of the cultivated land has assumed irrigation, of which almost half the area falls in the Dogadda block and the rest is distributed unevenly in the remaining 13 blocks. Water is brought into the fields from small rivulets by means of *guls*, cut along the contour line of the hill, the water being directed into the *gul* from the head-works consisting of a small temporary dam laid across the stream. As the channel of the stream becomes deeper and deeper by the annual rains, it has to be abandoned after some time and a new headworks made higher up. These *guls* are also used to run *gharats* (water-mills).

### SOURCES OF WATER SUPPLY

In the district, rain is the main source of water for irrigation. The rainy season usually lasts from June to September and the district normally receives an annual average rainfall of about 1,250 mm. but rain water hardly stays in the fields because of the sloping nature of the terrain nor does the top soil retain moisture for long. Thus, though abundant, the rain does not

satisfy the irrigational requirements of the district except in the flat valleys and the cultivators have to depend largely on artificial means of irrigation, and as the district abounds in big and small rivers, they help to provide irrigation, the smaller ones being generally more useful for this purpose rather than the bigger which flow in deep beds from where their water can not be lifted for irrigation except by power-driven devices. The small rivulets become mostly dry in the summer when water is most needed for irrigating the fields but even so they constitute an important source of water supply.

### Minor Irrigation Schemes

Irrigation is done in the district mainly with the help of minor irrigation channels constructed by the public works department and the local people.

Due to the mountainous nature of the terrain, big irrigation projects do not have much scope and so the stress continues to be on the construction of minor irrigation projects, particularly small water channels. During 1973-1974 the area irrigated by minor irrigation was 3,876 ha. The statement below gives some particulars regarding the irrigation channels constructed in the district up to March, 1971 :

Name of Channel	Length (in km.)	Gross command area (in ha.)	Area actually irrigated (in ha.)
Malethisain	1.8	65	40
Kharasain	3.2	100	68
Dhurolli	4.0	125	80
Badel	1.6	75	35
Badkholi	3.2	57	17
Bilkhet	0.6	70	Nil
Dungripanch	0.8	50	30
Pharasu	1.6	50	63
Surt	1.6	80	58
Jakh	0.6	88	6
Upholda	6.4	381	20
Fatehpur	0.8	45	18
Paithana	1.6	86	—
Pitrasain	5.6	150	—
Kalon	1.6	82	12
Mason Masita	6.4	200	2
Mason Paidul	0.8	25	36

## Ramganga River Multi-purpose Project

The Ramganga River Project at Kalagarh (in district Garhwal) is the biggest engineering feat of Uttar Pradesh to tame a turbulent stream for economic prosperity.

This project is the first venture of the State in the Himalayan region. The main work on the project, which is phased, started in 1965. Except for the construction of two diversion tunnels, all the major works at Kalagarh are managed by the State irrigation department.

### SOIL CONSERVATION

Most of the cultivable land is situated in the steep hill-sides and so is very susceptible to the ravages of soil erosion and both the tahsils of Pauri and Lansdowne are equally affected by this menace. In these areas the top soil is completely washed away by the rains and in some others even the subsoil has been eroded and the surface of the parent rock has begun to make its appearance. Though terraced, the fields on the hill slopes do not lie along the contours of the hillsides with the result that the soil retains very little water and the plants suffer from lack of moisture even during the rainy season when there is a gap of one or two weeks between the rains. The problem of soil erosion also rears its head in the *bhabar* area which is situated at the foot of the hills. The rivulets and rivers in the area often change their course and wash away large tracts of cultivated land every year. In this way about 80 per cent of the land is affected by soil erosion. In order to tackle this problem of soil erosion in an area of 1,40,000 ha., a soil conservation programme was started in the district during 1966-67 and it was divided into six units. The operation is carried out on land which has been under cultivation for several years and only such land as requires soil conservation treatment is included for treatment and by 1973-74 an area of about 1,918 ha. was covered. An area of about 117 ha. of agricultural land was treated in the Third and an area of 1,753 ha. in the Fourth Plan periods.

The following statement indicates the area covered by various measures of soil conservation adopted during 1966-67 to 1973-74:

Soil conservation measures adopted	Area (in ha.)
Treated by earthen and stone bunding	423
Levelling	866
Reafforestation	545
Protection through pasture development	84

## SOIL AND LAND

The types of soil in the district are usually the same as those in the other hill areas, they being gravel sand, sandy loam, clayey loam, heavy clay and calcareous soil. Red, grey, brown and dark brown soils are also found in different parts of the district. Most of the soils are poor in quality, shallow and stony and vary with the character of rock in the subsoil.

From the agro-climatic point of view, the district can be divided into three parts : places with a height up to 1,219 m. including river valleys and the *bhabar* ; places with an altitude from 1,219 m. to 1,828 m. and high mountains above 1,828 m. The height of the river-valley areas ranges from 304 m. to 1,219 m. above sea-level and climatically they are neither very hot nor very cold and receive adequate rain. The soil being fertile, they are more densely populated than the hill areas. As there is availability of irrigation resources, the yields are also better.

The *bhabar* area has a fertile soil and adequate irrigation facilities, which enable both the *rabi* and *kharif* to give better yields.

In the areas with an altitude from 1,219 m. to 1,628 m. and above the cultivators have to put in a great deal of labour in preparing contours and bunds which are washed away during every rainy season. Thus in spite of the hard labour and the money spent, it is not possible to increase the agricultural produce and the farmers of this area continue to be poor.

Cultivated land is generally classified as *talaon* (irrigated), first class *upraon* (dry), second class *upraon*, *irjan* (inferior terraced land cultivated intermittently) and *katil* or *khil* (inferior unterraced land cultivated intermittently). *Talaon* is also divisible into two classes—*sera*, where the water supply is perennial, the fields are more or less level and the soil alluvial and fertile and *Panchar* where the water-supply is irregular and the fields are not level being situated on a higher elevation and have less fertile soil than the *sera* lands. Some part of the *sera* is also known as *simar*, which is usually marshy and where only paddy can be grown. *Talaon* land contains good fertile alluvial soil and, to some extent, is found in all villages. The source of irrigation are *guls*. Mostly wheat and paddy are grown in these lands. Cultivation in *upraon* lands, which are usually situated near habitation sites, depends mainly on the rains and paddy, wheat, barley, *mandua* and *jhangora* are grown here. *Upraon* land is generally at a distance from the villages and grows only *jhangora* and *mandua* crops but, in years of good rainfall wheat is also grown in it. *Irjan* lands are situated on high hills and on their slopes. Soil in these lands being very poor, there is only one harvest in every two years. The crops raised are mainly *gabath*, *kota* and *marsa*, *katil* (*khil*) lands are found on the slopes of high hills but being stoney, such land is the least fertile and crops are sown only once in three or four years.

The soils may be divided into three categories. The red soil, found on the slopes and ridges of the hills, is generally sandy, becomes greyish when dry and reddish on getting moist. The brown soil found in the forests and in the fields near the forests, varies in colour from brown to dark brown depending on the quantity of organic matter in it. Podsol soil, clayey in texture, is found in generally all the terraced fields.

### Method of Cultivation

Level land being scarce, cultivation is generally done on terraced fields. Continuous ploughing over a number of years, hard and sustained labour and large investment are needed to construct and maintain the terraces. Boulders, stones and pebbles are piled up to form a wall at the lower edge of the field and the hillside excavated in the upper parts, excavated material being used to fill up the hollow part to make it comparatively level. This process is completed very gradually. Usually a small wall is raised in the first year, the field assuming the shape of a fine terraced field only in course of time as a result of ploughing, diluvion and the action of the weather. A great deal of time and labour is involved in this operation and even a small neglect results in the sudden growth of thorny bushes and other scrubby vegetation which ruins the whole field. Cultivation on *katil* or *khil* land was done intermittently after burning the scrub jungle on steep hills but this method has been abandoned. Generally the land is cultivated regularly but the period of fallow allowed between the harvests is so long that the land becomes very fertile. This long gap between two harvests is necessary for the recuperation of the fertility of the land as the fields are unterraced and suffer from the scouring action of rain, wind and floods, the only fertilizer provided being the ashes of the shrubs burnt in the fields before their preparation for the next sowing.

To prepare the seed bed, the plot is ploughed once if coarse *kharif* crops like *jhangora* and *mandua* are to be raised and twice for other crops. For paddy and sometimes wheat, the clods are broken up after each ploughing by an implement, the *dilara*, resembling a mallet with a long handle. The ground is also smoothed over by an implement called *jol*, which is like a harrow without teeth, and made level and even and the seed then sown. In irrigated land, paddy is usually sown in a seed bed. At the beginning of the rains, after the young plants have attained a height of about 0.15 m. they are transplanted in fields which are prepared previously. Pepper, and at some places, *mandua* seedlings are also transplanted. The *rabi* crop is cut with a sickle, paddy being cut close to the root and first the ears only of *jhangora* or *mandua* are cut. After the stalks have dried, they are also cut and stored as fodder. Wheat and barley are cut about the middle. When the sheaves are brought to the threshing floor the ears are chopped off for threshing and the stalks are used as cattle fodder. In normal years what remains in the field is grazed by cattle or burnt but in dry years, when grass is scarce it is culled carefully and preserved as fodder. Threshing floors

are usually constructed on a ridge where there is a good current of air. The grain is trodden by oxen in the usual way and winnowed by pouring it out of a basket held high up on to the ground below. Paddy is not taken to the threshing floor but is separated from the stalks in the field.

### Harvests and Principal Crops

In the greater part of the district there are two harvests, *kharif* and *rabi*, as in the plains, but in the cooler climate of the hills the crops require a longer period to ripen and are therefore sown somewhat earlier and reaped later in the plains. The *kharif* is reaped in September and the *rabi* crops are generally sown in October-November and harvested from the end of April to the middle of May or even later in the fields that are situated higher up. The main crops are wheat, mustard and barley in the *rabi* and paddy, maize, *mandua* and *jhangora* (coarse millets) in the *kharif*. Other crops are *kauni*, *chuwa*, *til*, and *china*, the pulses *urd*, *gabat* and *bhat* and still other crops pepper, ginger, turmeric and sugar-cane. *Kauni*, maize and *china* ripen rather earlier than the main crops. In the hills *tur* (which corresponds with the *arhar* of the plains) is sown in March and reaped with the main *kharif* crops.

### Other Crops

Other important crops grown in the district are *ugal* (buckwheat) which is used by the Hindus on fast days. Garhwal is famous in the southern *pattis* not very far from the marts of the plains for its turmeric, ginger, chillies, onion and spinach, which are grown where they find a ready sale. Onions, spinach, brinjal and pumpkin (cultivated and wild) are the vegetables usually eaten.

**Hemp**—Common hemp (*cannabis*) often grows wild but it is also cultivated at places by Pavilas (the *khasiyas* of Chandpur) in plots adjoining the village. The fibre (*lampha*) is made into ropes and sackcloth and it is used as a condiment as well. It is also woven into cloth called *bhangla* which is used for making bags and sacks. Intoxicating drug is also obtained from the plant and oil is extracted from its seed. A little is exported by way of Kotdwara and Ramnagar.

**Tea**—The possibility of starting the cultivation of tea in this region was first mooted by the British in 1827 and in 1835 tea seeds were obtained from China and plants raised at Calcutta were sent to Garhwal, Kumaon and Assam tea nurseries being established in Garhwal and Kumaon by government and Chinese tea manufacturer being obtained for the nurseries by 1842. In 1848, nearly 20,000 plants from the best black and green tea regions of Central China were introduced into these Himalayan plantations where the soil and climatic conditions proved admirably suitable for the cultivation of tea. Six experts and manufacturers of tea and a large supply of implements from the celebrated tea district

of Hurrychow (in China) were brought to these plantations to further the development of the cultivation of tea. A government factory was started at Gadoli. The biggest private tea estate was at Gwaldam and smaller ones at Museti, Beni Tal and Silkot. But because of the scarcity of cultivable land in Garhwal where it was essential to plant food crops in every available hectare, the difficulties of transport, the central Asian market not being captured, the heavy Russian import duties on Indian tea and the monopoly of the tea trade being in the hands of those who were interested in the sale of Chinese tea, the high hopes of the tea industry of the hills becoming a flourishing enterprise did not materialise and by the forties of the present century the industry had almost disappeared.

Some details about the areas covered by the major food and non-food crops in the district in 1951, 1961 and 1971 are given below :

Type of crop	Area (in ha.)		
	1951	1961	1971
<b>Food Crops</b>			
Paddy	38.2	88.2	35
Wheat	107.2	107.2	63
Barley	101.5	101.5	7
Maize	5.6	5.6	2
Maundua	97.5	97.5	42
Fruit and vegetable other than potato			
Potato	0.40	0.40	7
Potato	—	0.80	0.4
Other food Crops	24.6	22.6	2
<b>Non-food Crops</b>			
Oil-seeds	4.0	4.8	4
Hemp	0.2	0.2	0.1
Tobacco	9.8	0.80	0.8
Other non-food crops	0.2	0.40	0.3

### Improvement of Agriculture

The necessity of augmenting agricultural production was realised during the course of the Second World War. As a remedial measure the government launched a grow more food campaign providing several incentives to increase farm output. But

a determined policy to bring about improvement in the agricultural sector in order to achieve self-sufficiency in cereals and other essential commodities of consumption was initiated only after Independence in 1947. Improved and scientific methods of growing wheat, barley and other crops and the Japanese method of paddy cultivation have been popularised among the cultivators of the district which include proper tillage, sufficient and timely manuring, sowing of seeds of high-yielding varieties, proper and timely irrigation and protection of crops from pests and diseases. The use of modern agricultural implements is also being popularised by distributing them to the farmers of the district. Government give financial assistance to the cultivators to buy seeds, implements, fertilizers and often appliances for better agricultural production.

The sixties of this century saw the ushering in of the 'green revolution' under which schemes of intensive cultivation and sowing of high-yielding seeds of wheat, barley, maize and other crops have been implemented. The government agriculture farms in the district, various other agencies of the Central and State Governments, the food and agricultural organisation of the United Nations and other agricultural research centres are engaged in encouraging farmers to adopt better scientific methods, implements and other improved agricultural practices through practical demonstrations in the fields.

Considerable emphasis is being laid on the sowing of high-yielding varieties, but due to the lack of adequate irrigation facilities in the district, which are necessary for the success of the programmes, the work is being taken up on a restricted scale and only in areas of assured irrigation. In the year 1968-69, the area covered under high-yielding varieties was 1,242 ha. and it was planned that an area of 4,360 ha. under this programme would be covered by the end of the Fourth Five year Plan. This programme will be further accelerated as and when the irrigation potential develops.

### **Seed Supply**

There is no government seed farm in the district except a small plot of 1.6 ha. the production in which is altogether insufficient to meet the seed requirements of the district. The seed requirements are therefore met either through purchases made from the local cultivators or by importing seed which is received from Bareilly. Mand and the Vivekanand laboratory and the agricultural university at Pantnagar. The seed is mostly supplied to the cultivators on a cash basis and sometimes is given on a *sawai* basis (repayment at the rate of 25 per cent in excess of the quantity advanced). The popular high-yielding varieties of seeds in the district are of paddy, hybrid maize, U. P. wheat and the wheat seeds evolved at the agricultural university at Pantnagar, which are supplied by government through the 15 seed stores maintained by the agriculture department.

The following statement indicates the quantity of seeds distributed through the district agencies from 1968-69 to 1973-74 :

Year	Quantity (in quintals)
1968-69	145.83
1969-70	398.00
1970-71	398.00
1971-72	766.15
1972-73	735.38
1973-74	702.47

The agriculture department has a programme of saturating the entire district under all crops with the new varieties of high-yielding seeds.

### Soil Nutrients

Though all types of land are improved by manuring in practice the *seras* are not manured as the silt brought down by the *guls* is considered adequate to keep them up to standard. The manure used is usually old cowshed litter or leaf mould. In the *katil* the shrubs are burnt and the ashes spread over the land to act as a fertiliser. Cattle are in some places penned in the fields during the hot weather and their dropping, etc., enrich the soil and lessen the burden of the cultivator as regards the operation of manuring.

The consumption of chemical fertilisers in the district is very poor as indicated by the fact that in the year 1969-70 only 67 tonnes of urea, 41 tonnes of super phosphate and 29 tonnes of potash were distributed.

About 177 ha. were sown with green manure crops in 1975-76.

### Agricultural Implements and Machines

According to the live-stock census carried out in 1972, there were the following number and types of agricultural implements in use in the district :

Types of implements	Number
Wooden ploughs	26,501
Levellers and scrappers	3,000
Seed drills	2,007
Sugar-cane crushers	200
Tractors	1
Wheat threshers	2
Other threshers	1
Crop-cutting implements	70,053

## Agricultural Co-operatives

The practice of cultivating land jointly is very old among the cultivators of the district. In the course of implementing planning and development programmes, co-operative societies have been organised in the villages for farming, marketing, distributing of seeds, loans, fertilisers and agricultural implements. In 1974 there were eight co-operative farming societies established between 1952 and 1963 and 15 seed stores for providing seeds to the cultivators. With the aim of protecting the cultivators from the vagaries and other disadvantages of the market, exploitation at the hands of unscrupulous traders and to provide them with a fair price for their agricultural produce, co-operative marketing societies were organised in the district, numbering two in 1974 and function at Kotdwara and Pauri. They handled agricultural produce worth Rs 4,95,459 in that year. The agricultural loans advanced by the co-operative societies amounted to Rs 18,43,000 at the end of the Third Plan period and Rs 39,19,000 at the end of the Fourth.

## Horticulture

Agriculture alone is not sufficient to provide employment to the entire population of the district. In view of this fact and the climatic conditions and the topography of the district, horticulture assumes great importance in augmenting the aggregate income of the district. Steps for the development of horticulture have been taken in the district for the last 15 years.

Garhwal is particularly well provided with fruit trees. Up to a height of about 914 m. the mango and *jamun* of the plains are very common. Above this grow the (wild) apple, pear, medlar, cherry, apricot, plum and peach. Orange, lime and pomegranate grow everywhere. The walnut is found in its wild and cultivated states. Good fruit is grown in Pauri and its neighbourhood. Wild fruits much appreciated by the villagers are the cornel, fig, mulberry, raspberry and blackberry. Near the snows occur black, red and white currants and gooseberries and the hazel, the nut of which is commonly known as the Bhotia *badam*.

In the sphere of pomology, five fruit belts have been established for development. There are two departmental orchards at Bharser and Kumbichaour in addition to the two progeny orchards at Rahkhal and Khandiyusain, all belonging to the Uttar Pradesh Government. Fruits and vegetables are also grown throughout the district.

## State Aid to Agriculture

The agriculture department provides *taqavi* (agricultural loans) to the cultivators for agricultural purposes like the purchase of chemical fertilizers, implements, seeds, pesticides, bullocks, etc., and for other purposes related to the development of agriculture. In 1973-74 the amount of *taqavi* disbursed to the cultivators was Rs 30,000.

The agriculture development programme is mainly the responsibility of the district agriculture officer. Since 1973-74 a few programmes have been taken by the area development officer under the supervision of the district agriculture officer who is responsible for the preparation of the district agriculture plan. The blockwise targets are fixed and the plan is sent to the block development officer for execution by the village layer workers and the assistant agriculture inspector.

The practice of simultaneously growing more than one crop in a single field more or less in a single season gives an additional harvest, increase the overall yield and ensures the maximum use of the soil and its nutrients. If the system of multiple cropping is adopted the danger of loss of one of the crops due to adverse weather and or disease is mitigated and there is a chance that the other crops in the field will be saved.

Some sort of rotation of crops is a matter of necessity for a tract from which two harvests are gathered in the year, as the same crop cannot be grown in both seasons. But such a system of rotation is not practicable in Garhwal, because in most parts the early autumn crops have to be sown before the spring crops are ripe. Hence the standard two-year rotation of the hills of rice, wheat and *mandua*. Paddy is sown in April and reaped in September. It is followed by wheat sown in October and reaped in April. Then *mandua* is sown and reaped in October, after which the land remains fallow till the next April. For the purpose of this rotation, the village lands are divided into two parts. Rice is grown in half and *mandua* in the other half. The half in which rice is sown is known as the *satyara*, that in which *mandua* is sown is known as *kodara*. In the winter the *kodara* is left fallow, wheat being sown in the *satyara* and this portion then becomes known as the *gyunwara*. Subsequently when *mandua* follows wheat, it becomes the *kodara* and the *kodara* of the previous year becomes the *satyara*. The system of leaving fallow a whole stretch of land, instead of scattered fields here and there, has its advantages when cattle are turned loose to graze on the remnants of the straw and stubble and the grass that can be found on the terrace walls. In land which is too stony to grow rice or wheat, *Jhangora* is substituted for the one or barley for the other or both but this does not affect the system of rotation.

Another two-crop rotation is that of *chuwa* and barley, which is much practised in the northern villages in fields near the homestead which are regularly enriched with manure from the village. In the southern there is a similar rotation with *ugal* (buckwheat) substituted for *chuwa* but this is confined to outlying land. *Ugal* is said not to be injured by the mists which settle on the tops of the hills in the rains. In the higher villages of the north, where barley does not ripen till May and June, the double crop is not possible and the rotation practised there is *chuwa*

(April to September) followed by barley (October to June) followed by mustard (August to December). The land then remains fallow till the next April when *chuwa* is sown again.

The standard rotation for outlying land, which is too far from the village to be manured in the ordinary way, is as follows : wheat or barley is sown in the autumn and reaped in the following spring. Wheat is said to thrive in more disadvantageous circumstances than barley. It is followed immediately by a crop of *mandua*. After the crop is cut, the field is allowed to remain fallow during the winter and a crop of *jhangora* is raised in the next summer, the land then remaining fallow for a period of three years, when the whole process is repeated. The whole rotation thus occupies five years. The name applied to this rotation, or rather the land on which it is adopted, is *tisali*. The rotation is usually practised, though indifferently, on terraced or unterraced land.

### Agricultural Diseases and Pests

The three main enemies of crops are animals, birds and insects. A large number of plant diseases, fungi and weeds also cause damage to plants. Monkeys, field rats, squirrels, wild animals like the blue bull (*nilgai*), jackals and parrots etc., are a deadly menace to crops. The usual methods of protection adopted by the farmer are keeping watch, beating tin plates to ward off birds and closing rat holes. The plant diseases, leaf mosaic and smut attack wheat and barley as do termites. Paddy is mostly affected by mosaic, blight and the gundhi bug. Withertip takes heavy toll of citrus fruits, Mango orchards and other orchards suffer from blacktip, withertip and damping of seedlings.

Plant protection operations play an important role in the successful implementation of the intensive cultivation programmes. In the past the cultivators of the district did not take up plant protection work seriously with the result that very often the standing crops suffered heavily from the attacks of insects and pests. The poor response of the cultivators is evidenced by the fact that in 1968-69 only 8,007 ha. of land including orchards were covered under plant protection schemes as against 1,07,484 ha. under cultivation and control operations against the Kurmula pest was carried out in an area of only 4.207 ha. in that year.

There are many leafy growths and weeds which are also harmful to the crops which can be done away with by systematic and timely weeding at regular intervals.

The plant protection department, with its trained personnel posted in the district, provides free advice to the cultivators about raising healthy crops of fruits, vegetables and cereals and taking up timely measures for protection of plants from diseases and pests. It also provides insecticides spraying and dusting apparatuses and the services of trained workers at moderate rates. Some

details of the work done by the plant protection department in the district in 1973-74 are given below :

Programme undertaken	Area (in ha.)
Seed treatment	110.2
Rat control	448.6
Fruit plants treated against insects	670.7
Fruit plants treated against various diseases	394.6
Agricultural crops treated against disease and insects	41.5
Vegetable crops treated against diseases and insects	113.3

### Animal Husbandry And Fisheries

Live-stock plays a vital role in the economic life of the people of the district. The hill cattle generally differ from those of the plains in build, being shorter but they are more active and surefooted. Those bred for export in pargana Chandkot are bigger and are much appreciated in the plains. The cows and buffaloes and goats are the main sources of milk, though buffaloes are preferred to cows for milch purposes as the latter are of an inferior quality and do not produce more than a litre of milk a day. Oxen and buffaloes are used for ploughing the fields and a selected number of them is used for breeding purpose. Horses, ponies, donkeys and mules are used for riding and transport of goods.

Sheep and goats are reared chiefly for their meat, their milk also being often used.

They are also used as beasts of burden. Each animal is saddled with a pair of saddle bags called *phancha* and can carry a load of about 12 kg. Ponies are good for riding and command high prices. They are, therefore, seldom used as pack-animals. The following statement gives the figures of live-stock in the district in 1972 :

Live-stock	Number
Bullocks	1,89,817
Cows	2,37,859
Buffaloes	59,599
Sheep	37,421
Goats	1,39,718
Pigs	213

**Development of Cattle**—The development of cattle is fraught with difficulties on account of the inadequacy of grazing grounds and cultivable land for growing food crops and fodder for them. Since the implementation of the Five-year Plans in 1951-52, cattle development has been receiving government's attention and the animal husbandry department has been endeavouring to improve the breed of the live-stock of the district. The department, has been distributing for many years, stud bulls to improve the progeny of different species of the domestic animals of the district. These stud bulls are given to individual breeder or the gram sabhas on a charge which varies with the type of stud bulls distributed. The following statement gives some idea of the distribution of such animals in the district from 1969-70 to 1973, for improving the breed of live-stock :

Year	No. of animals distributed with types of breed
1969-70	3 Hariana bulls, 1 Murrah bull, 78 Chamba bucks 47 Rampur Bushair rams and 1 boar
1970-71	4 Sindhi bulls, 4 Murrah bulls, 29 Chamba bucks and 33 R. B. rams
1971-72	3 Murrah bulls, 22 Chamba bucks, 29 R. B. rams
1972-73	3 Sindhi bulls, 2 Jersey bulls and 7 Chamba bucks
1973-74	17 Chamba bucks, 8 R. B. rams and 1 stallion

To improve the breed of cattle, the government started an artificial insemination scheme in the district, with one centre and four subcentres for the purpose, where 368 cattle were artificially inseminated in 1973-74. There were 47 stockman centres in the district. Bulls and rams are provided at a nominal price to private breeders. Deshi and inferior types of cattle are castrated. Improved natural and artificial insemination is done for which no fee is charged by the government. The following statement shows the number of cattle castrated and that provided with artificial insemination service from 1969-70 to 1973-74 :

Year	No. castrated	No. inseminated
1969-70	7,312	122
1970-71	7,306	175
1971-72	8,412	153
1972-73	8,526	252
1973-74	8,077	368

There are two natural breeding centres in the district which are maintained by the department, one at the veterinary hospital, Pokhera, and the other at the veterinary hospital, Rudraprayag, with two bulls at each centre to provide free stud facilities to the owners of animals.

For the development of sheep, there are three stud ram centres—two in the Thalisain block and one in the Nainital block

Stud rams are distributed to the sheep breeders of the area twice a year (during spring and autumn) to improve the quality of breed of the local sheep. One such centre, at the Thalisain block, was established in 1973-74.

The following statement gives the number of improved progeny in the two centres from 1969-70 to 1973-74:

Name of centre	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74
Dhumalote (Nainidanda block)	620	693	496	312	84
Jakholantal (Thalisain block )	294	326	520	212	12

### Poultry

Poultry farming is also becoming popular in the district with the increasing demand for poultry products. According to the live-stock census of 1972, there were 4,435 cocks, 9,446 hens and 16,437 chicks in the district in that year. The district staff of the animal husbandry department makes arrangements for the supply of birds to those interested in poultry farming and in 1973-74 the number of birds distributed was 11,317. These birds, mainly white leghorns, are purchased from the neighbouring State farms at Moradabad, Pashulok (Rishikesh) and Kalsi or Hawalbagh (district Almora). There is only one egg production centre at Pauri under the supervision of an assistant veterinary surgeon. The centre has about 100 birds and the eggs produced here are sold in the market or to the consumers of the area. In 1973-74 the number of eggs produced was 3,205.

### Cattle Diseases and Veterinary Facilities

The cattle in the district are not much exposed to serious diseases. Rinderpest, locally known as *manrog* is not endemic in the district. Rinderpest and dysentery *chhera* are commonest in the southern sub-division, particularly in those patti's which border on the *bhabar*. Foot and mouth disease (*khuria*) occurs throughout the district, the Bhotia's animals being the usual carriers of many of these diseases. Haemorrhagic septicaemia (*bamka*) and sheen-pox (locally known as *ataila*) are fairly common diseases in the northern parganas where they cause much loss to cattle life. The people are aware of their own interest and usually take effective measures for the segregation of infected animals. The planning and animal husbandry departments of government educate the village folk in respect of the treatment and prevention of these diseases through demonstrations and other types of publicity.

The district live-stock officer is in charge of animal husbandry and allied activities like poultry farming and there is a trained staff to assist him. There are 18 veterinary hospitals in

the district. Generally there is one hospital in each block but in the Dogadda block there are four veterinary hospitals. The number of stockman centres in the district is 47. The following statement states the number of animals treated for different diseases from 1969-70 to 1973-74 :

Year	Number treated
1969-70	49,103
1970-71	48,312
1971-72	51,625
1972-73	52,499
1973-74	69,470

For prevention of infectious diseases, thousands of animals and fowls are vaccinated free of cost every year. The statement below gives the number of animals vaccinated against various diseases in the district from 1969-70 to 1973-74 :

Name of disease	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74
Rinderpest	4,803	1,694	4,844	2,063	20,310
Blackquarter	13,001	14,136	17,320	23,479	33,907
Haemorrhagic septicaemia	28,000	26,220	32,123	24,399	31,699
Ranikhet disease	922	9,100	10,088	3,965	10,560
Fowl pox	103	—	2,214	986	4,394
Fowl-cholera	100	312	200	200	—
Anti-rabic vaccination	—	2	2	46	—

### Housing and Feeding

Generally the cattle in the villages of the district are housed in the *goth* (small room on the ground floor of the dwelling house) or in separate sheds which are littered with grass, leaves and garbage and cleaned occasionally, the contents being taken to the fields for use as compost manure. Fodder consists chiefly of grass and *bhyunl* leaves. The cattle graze on the stubble of harvested fields, in the forests or in village pastures. Fodder is seldom preserved except in the north, where meadow land is divided among the *hissedars*, each cutting and storing his own fodder. Surplus straw is stacked on trees near the homestead and used as required. In the summer the villages of the neighbourhood drive their cattle up to the great oak forests on the higher hills where they make a more or less permanent cattle station, not leaving it until the rains have well set in.

Mainly oats, *berseem*, *lobia* and M. P. *chari* seeds are used to grow fodder crops. The seeds are sown in different parts of the district according to the altitude above sea-level and the irrigation facilities available. The total area covered by fodder crops in the district was 126 ha. in 1973-74 and the total area covered by pasture land 47,282 ha.

### Live-stock Products

Trading in wool and woollen goods has been one of the main occupations of the people of these hills from time immemorial. Not only is wool obtained from sheep but their skin and meat are also commercially useful.

### Fisheries

The chief species of fish found in the rivers of the district are *mahaseer* (*Barbus tor*), *rohu* (*Labeo rohita*), *kali machi* (*Barbus chilinoides*), *asola* (*Schizothorax richardsoni*), *baiyan* (*Mastacembelus armatus*), *dhaur* (*Bareilius bengalensis*) and *gadera* (*Nemacheilus bevanii*). They are angled for in the Alaknanda and the Pindar and caught by means of the seine and casting nets, basket traps and weirs or by diverting the stream in the case of smaller rivers. Another method is the *raksha* by which two men sit on commanding rocks on opposite sides of a river and hold the ends of a stout cord armed with large barbed hooks at intervals of three or four inches. The cord is allowed to sink to the bottom of the river until a fish is seen to pass over it when a sharp jerk often transfixes it but more than are captured escape with some injury.

### Forestry

Forestry has a considerable influence on the economic development of the district. The district of Garhwal is very rich in respect of forest wealth especially in timber and herbs. A broad belt of forest extending from the Ramganga to the Ganga clothes the outer ranges of the Himalayas and the duns lying at the foot of the hills. In the absence of any major industry in the district, forestry, in addition to agriculture, is the mainstay of the economy of the district.

The forest area of the district consists of the whole of the Garhwal and the Lansdowne forest divisions and the greater part of the Kalagarh forest division. The total area of the forest under the department is about 2,46,247 ha. of which 69,011 ha. lie in the Garhwal forest division, 85,150 ha. in the Lansdowne forest division and 92,086 ha. in the Kalagarh forest division. The civil or the district forests form strips around *abadi* sites but their exact area is not known.

The major forest produce is timber and wood for fuel. Other forest products include bamboo, grass, leaves, leaf manure, oils, tanning materials, dyes, gums, resin, medicinal herbs, edible fruits, honey, wax, animal products like hides, skins, bones, horns, musk

pods and monal feathers. Resin in large quantities is extracted from the *chir* and is supplied to factories for manufacturing turpentine, paint and varnish.

*Chir* wood is used not only as timber for buildings but also provides a gum (resin). The seed of *chir* (known as *chilgosa*) produces oil and is also roasted and eaten. The oil-bearing portion of this tree is locally known as *chulla* and is used for burning and pine needles make good manure. *Chir* forests are said to be particularly suited for providing a healthy environment for patients of tuberculosis. Next in importance are the deodar and sal, the latter growing mostly in the *bhabar*. Poles and staves of all kinds of wood (such as *sain*, *sandan*, *tun* and *jamun*) are in great demand.

The exploitation of the forests for silviculture is done on a sustained yield basis, according to the working plan prescriptions of the forest department. The conservation of existing forests for climatic and soil conservation purposes is also one of the important objectives. The increase in population has adversely affected the forest wealth of the district. As the villages are close to the reserve forests, the villagers come to forests together fuel leaves etc., and mutilate the trees recklessly. The forest are also open to unrestricted and free grazing which is greatly inimical to the natural regeneration of trees, undergrowth, humus and other benefits.

Government have launched afforestation programmes on scientific lines which will check soil erosion and help preservation of the rich flora and fauna of the hills. The horticulture department has undertaken its own afforestation scheme particularly in those areas where the land is not suitable for cultivation more than 14,306 trees have been planted up to 1973.

## CHAPTER V

# INDUSTRIES

### Old-time Industries

The area-covered by the district of Garhwal is predominantly agricultural. Some cottage industries have been in existence in this area for long, the chief being the woollen industry. Tea cultivation was also started by the British at a few places such as Gadoli (near Pauri) which was the main centre of the industry, where a small tea estate existed. A factory was established here. The cultivators did not favour the idea of the cultivation of tea as they required more land than that available for the production of food crops as what they produced did not suffice for their needs for the whole year. Due to competition for the tea from China and Assam, the production of tea in the district fell sharply in 1907 and by the forties of this century the industry ceased to exist.

In the early years of the present century, *bhangela* cloth was woven from *lampha*, a fibra obtained from hemp (*cannabis sativa*) and was worn by people generally or made into bags, some of which were exported to the plains. Woollen garments, carpets and blankets were produced by the Kolis who used small weaving and spinning frames, the wool being generally imported from Tibet. The more skilled produced a little surplus stock for sale at the fairs.

The manufacture of mats, baskets, etc. from *ringal* (*Arundinaria*) is also an old industry. The pilgrims who come to Srinagar from Rishikesh and proceed to Badrinath, visiting the many temples and other places of religious significance on route in the district, have been the largest buyers of these products. The other old industries of the district are the making of brass and copper utensils and foot-wear from leather, particularly the shoes produced at Lansdowne which were famous for their durability and finish. Paper from vegetable pulp was also manufactured at Srinagar and in the beginning of the nineteenth century, the British used to buy paper from Garhwal in bulk. Nevertheless the district had very few organised industries even as recently as 1961. Garhwal was one of the 12 districts in Uttar Pradesh having less than 2,000 workshops and factories. There were in all 618 industrial units in the district, of which 373 (346 in the rural areas) were engaged in the production of wheat flour and rice by dehusking and processing of crops and in the making of sweetmeats and condiments. Galvanised iron pipes, wire-nets, bolts, buckets, cutlery etc., were produced in 245 units of which 201 were located in the rural areas.

As regards the size of the industries, the predominant group in the rural areas in 1961 was the single-worker group accounting

for 77.1 per cent, while 2.5 workers group dominated the urban sector accounting for 54.2 per cent. The next important working group in the rural areas was 2.5 workers accounting for 19.7 per cent of the working group and the single-worker type in the urban areas accounting for 34.4 per cent. Other working groups in either area were insignificant.

Since the achievement of Independence in 1947, efforts have been made by the government to establish new industries and to attract capital and entrepreneurs to the district. A number of production and training centres have been established in the district. Industrial estates have also been established at Srinagar and Kotdwara. Training in the making of shawls, furniture mats and baskets has been imparted to 278 persons in the last 12 years beginning with 1962. A factory for the manufacture of rosin, turpentine and varnish was established at Kotdwara in 1955. There are also a number of printing presses and units which manufacture soap, candles, batteries and engineering goods. But even in 1971, only 1.4 per cent of the working people of the district were engaged in various industries.

### Power

Kotdwara was the first town in the district to receive electricity, power being extended to it from Najibabad in 1956. Pauri (the headquarter town) was electrified in 1957 and Bah bazar and Srinagar became recipients by 1964.

In 1973-74 the consumption of electricity was highest for domestic purposes, which accounted for 46.1 per cent of the total consumption. The percentage of total consumption for each category of consumer is given below:

CATEGORY OF CONSUMER	Percentage
Domestic	46.1
Industry	23.7
Irrigation	7.0
Light and fan (other than domestic)	6.5
Others	16.7

There were 4,392 consumers in the urban areas of the district in 1973-74 whom only 115 used power for industrial purposes.

**Rural Electrification**—Three villages in the district received electricity by the end of the Third Five-Year Plan. By March 31, 1972, the number of villages electrified was 79. A village electrification scheme was launched in 1972 and by March 31, 1974, the number of villages that were electrified had gone up to 135. These villages comprise only 4.2 per cent of the total number of villages in the district and most of them are small. There are 3,234 villages in the district.

## Small-Scale Industries

Soap, carpentry goods, cardboard boxes, engineering goods, foot-wear, leather goods, batteries, pencils, plastic goods, wheat flour and rice are produced in the majority of small-scale industrial units and in the remaining units job-work such as printing, repair of motor vehicles and blending of tobacco is undertaken. The majority of these industries is located at Kotdwara and the rest at Pauri and Srinagar. Small-scale industries were first established in the district in the fifties of this century. According to surveys held in 1956 and 1974, the comparative pattern of small-scale industries was as follows :

Year	No. of units	Total investment (in Rs)	Total production (value Rs)	Total no. of persons employed
1956	21	1,94,800	5,07,177	93
1974	55	25,50,000	27,40,000	298

**Carpentry Goods, Frames, etc.**—Frames for houses, doors, windows, tables, chairs and charpoys are made from timber available in the forests of the district. These units are generally engaged in the sawing of timber and converting it into carpentry goods. The units of this industry are located mostly at Kotdwara and Srinagar.

Cardboard boxes are made from carboard at Srinagar and Kotdwara, the cardboard being imported from Saharanpur. Printed books and various types of paper are also produced at these two places. In 1974 about 20 units were engaged in the production of carpentry goods, cardboard boxes and printed material. All these industries provide employment to 75 persons.

**Engineering Goods**—Engineering goods are produced in 12 units which are situated at Kotdwara and Pauri. The majority of these units are engaged in the repair of trucks and the retreading of tyres. Only a few make boxes and cutlery from tin and brass respectively. The industry engaged 50 persons in 1974.

**Soap and Candles**—Soap and candles are produced in eight units which are situated at Srinagar and Kotdwara. Vegetable oil, sodium silicate and wax are imported from Saharanpur and Delhi and washing soap and candles are produced for consumption in the district.

**Leather and Plastic Goods**—Purses from tanned leather are produced in one unit at Pauri, which is manned by one person. Footwear of plastic is made in a unit at Kotdwara which employed 38 persons in 1974. Leather and plastic are imported from the plains.

**Batteries**—Electric batteries are produced in two units at Kotdwara, which provided employment to six persons in 1974.

**Edibles**—Wheat, flour, rice and oil from oil-seeds are produced in nine units which are located at Kotdwara.

The following statement gives certain other details about the small-scale industries in the district as in 1974:

Industry	Total investment (in Rs)	Production (Type of goods/ commodity)	Value (Rs)
Carpentry, cardboard boxes and printing	5,50,000	Furniture, cardboard boxes, printing	5,80,000
Engineering	3,00,000	Metal boxes, repair of automobiles	3,20,000
Soap and candle making	2,00,000	Washing soap, candles	2,30,000
Leather goods	3,000	Purses	3,000
Plastic goods	3,00,000	Footwear	3,20,000
Electric goods	1,00,000	Batteries	1,30,000
Food-grain	10,00,000	Wheat, rice, wheat flour	10,50,000
Oil	70,000	Mustard oil	80,000

### Village and Cottage Industries

Village and cottage industries are traditional trades and they have been handed down from generation to generation. Woolen goods, textiles, pottery, brassware, copperware, baskets and leather footwear are the products of these small and household industries which are manned and owned by particular sections of the village community. These artisans belonged to about 50 villages of the district in 1961. About 21,081 persons were employed in these trades in 1971. The factory for the production of resin and turpentine, on a co-operative basis, was established at Kotdwara in 1955 and it is the only well-organised village and cottage industry in the district. Resin, which is tapped from pine trees, is used as raw material for the production of resin, turpentine and varnish. In 1974 the total investment of this unit was Rs 1,33,124 when resin, turpentine and varnish worth Rs 8,57,971 was produced, consuming resin worth Rs 6,25,840. About 50 persons are employed in the unit.

A brief account of the other village and cottage industries follows :

**Rnigal, Carpentry and Sawn Timber**—Baskets of different types, mats and chicks are manufactured from *rnigal*. A large number of artisans is engaged in the weaving of baskets from *rnigal* which grows to about 3 m. in height with a diameter of 7 or 8 cm. and is more flexible than bamboo but less so than cane.

It grows above altitudes of 1,829 m. and is cut and prepared for use in the winter. The box-like baskets are called *kandis* which are bought by the local people as well as pilgrims.

The artisan displays his skill in the arrangement of patterns and colours, producing beautiful and harmonious combinations. The skill is hereditary and the industry is spread over 24 villages inhabited by about 300 Koris and Shilpkars. There are very few units which produce sawn timber.

**Woolen Goods**—Woolen carpets and blankets are woven in localities situated between the altitudes of 1,524 m. and 2,438 m. The supply of wool has decreased considerably since 1962 when trade with Tibet came to a standstill. Efforts are being made to rear sheep of good strain from stock imported from Australia. Arrangement has also been made for the purchase and stocking of local and foreign wool for the production of woollen goods. *Thulmas*, *ounkies* and *chutakas* (type of blankets) and *namdas* (carpets) are made in the district by about 250 weavers, who hail from nine villages. The women do the spinning and weaving in their spare time on small spinning and weaving frames and their deft hands produce artistic patterns. Improved weaving frames have been distributed by government and new techniques of production are being imparted to the people in the production and training centres, which are run at Srinagar and Pauri by the industries department of the Uttar Pradesh Government.

**Brassware and Copperware**—Utensils of brass and copper are manufactured in seven villages inhabited by about 300 Tamtas and Shilpkars. Of late, due to the rising prices of brass and copper, the industry appears to be declining and production of metal utensils has decreased considerably. At present the trade is confined to Simkhet, where the Shilpkars make utensils out of old and used ones collected from the residents of the district.

There are a number of blacksmiths in the district, who undertake mainly job-work, some of them producing galvanised iron pipes, wire netting, bolts, screws, buckets and cutlery as well.

**Leather Goods**—Footwear of leather is produced at Pauri and Lansdowne, the cobblers of Lansdowne being famous for making strong and durable shoes. Tanned leather is imported from Bijner and Kanpur and its demand far exceeds the supply.

**Other Industries**—Water-mills (*gharats*) which are run till January are operated by flowing water which rushes down the hills in the rainy season. Wheat flour is produced in these mills.

Rice and flour of wheat and gram are produced in a number of rural units which are engaged mainly in the milling, husking and processing of food-grains.

Bee-keeping is another industry flourishing in the district which produce honey. The following statement point to the economic

aspect of some of the industrial units in the district and indicates the location, investment, production and number of persons employed in one unit, taken as a sample in 1974-75 :

Industry	Location of unit	Total investment (Rs)	Production (Rs)	No. employed in average unit
Blacksmithery and production of utensils and cutlary	Kameri	6,810	10,940	5
Blacksmithery and production of utensils and cutlary	Dhauntyal	9,473	12,735	6
Blacksmithery and production of utensils and cutlary	Syunsi	3,599	5,780	2
Leather and footwear	Srinagar	1,500	4,800	1
Bee-keeping	Jaku	750	400	1
Bee-keeping	Korkandai	750	200	1
Food processing	Surmeshi	1,500	5,640	2

### Aid to Industries

The State Government provides financial aid to entrepreneurs who establish, expand, renovate or modernise their industries. Garhwal, which is one of the economically backward districts of the State, enjoys certain concessions. A loan can be repaid in 15 years, the first instalment of repayments commencing after 1 to 2 years, the period being extendable to 4 years. The following statement indicates the amounts of loans advanced by the government in the three Five-year Plan periods :

Five-year Plan	No. of industrial units receiving Loan	Amount disbursed (Rs)	Rate of interest (per cent per annum)
First Plan	14	24,750	3
Second Plan	72	2,48,750	3 to 4.50
Third Plan	68	2,67,500	3 to 5.50

The Uttar Pradesh financial corporation, Kanpur, extends financial assistance to industrial concerns and also on behalf of the State Government. Its own plan of disbursement is known as the corporation loan scheme and those under which loans are

advanced on behalf of the State Government are known as the liberalised loan scheme and the ordinary loan scheme. Under the first scheme, loans are advanced at reduced rates of interest and for long periods, extending to 15 years. The following statement states the amounts of loans advanced to the industrial units of Garhwal by the U. P. financial corporation in 1973-74 :

Scheme	No. of units receiving loan	Amount (Rs)	Rate of interest (per cent per annum)
Corporation loan scheme	2	1,60,000	7 to 7.50
Ordinary loan scheme	1	17,000	7 to 7.50
Liberalised loan scheme	1	22,000	7 to 7.50
Total	4	1,99,000	

### Industrial Estates

There are two sites marked for the establishment of industrial estates in the district, one each located at Kotdwara and Srinagar but the latter has not been occupied by any industrial establishment.

The industrial estate at Kotdwara was established in 1965-66. Pencils, wire nails and bakery products are produced in six units which employ 14 persons. The value of the products, pencils and wire nails, was Rs 24,000 and Rs 12,000 respectively in 1974.

### Hill Wool Scheme

संवर्धन जनने

The scheme was introduced in the district in 1956 but it made progress only after 1967. Training and production centres were opened at Pauri and Dogadda where five weavers are trained each year and each trainee receives a stipend of Rs 40 per month. The following statement indicates the value of the products tweed, carpets, shawls etc.

Year	Production (value Rs)
1967-68	67,222
1968-69	2,81,255
1969-70	2,77,960
1970-71	3,13,633
1971-72	2,05,374
1972-73	2,49,326
1973-74	2,93,051
1974-75	3,84,354

Wool is procured from hill districts of the State and carded in a carding plant at Pauri which is manned by six persons.

## Production-cum-Training Centres

The first centre was opened at Pauri in 1962, which by 1974 had imparted training in shawl making to 131 persons, the value of goods produced in that year being Rs 47,564. The second centre was established at Srinagar, also in 1962 and by 1974 it had trained 137 persons in furniture making from *papri* wood, the value of the goods produced in that year being Rs 89,811. The third centre was opened at Paban in 1973 and by 1974 it had trained 10 persons in the making of matting, baskets and sticks from *ringal* and bamboo in which year the value of the goods produced was Rs 556.

Each centre is manned by a superintendent, two instructors and some other staff. A stipend of Rs 40 per month is paid to each trainee.

## Sericulture

A beginning in sericulture was made in the district in 1957 when mulberry trees were planted and rearing of cocoons was initiated at Kotdwar. By the end of 1974, mulberry trees had been planted in an area of 20 ha. at Shivpur (near Kotdwara), Sitabpur, Bilkhet, Kandichand, Haldu Khata and Srinagar. The production of cocoons in 1974 was estimated to be 1,450 kg. and worth Rs 23,000.

## Industrial Potential

In view of the good natural resources, such as forests, live-stock and minerals, the few industries that exist could be developed further.

सत्यमेव जयते

Flour-mills can be set up in the urban centres, which will create ancillary industries like bakeries, oil-mills, etc., which in turn will develop more resources for the development of the district economy.

Timber available in the forests can form the basis of the manufacture of sports goods, furniture, gun butts, electric table lamps, drawing and survey instruments, carved wooden articles, etc. Saw-mills can also be established which can produce sawn-timber for the manufacture of the above mentioned goods. The government has made a survey of the scope and extent of the variety of herbs and medicinal plants that grow in the district. A few units can be established at Srinagar, Pauri and Kotdwara, where Ayurvedic medicines can be produced and where research in and experiments with herbs and medicinal plants grown in the district can be undertaken. Resin, which is extracted from pine trees in large quantities can be utilised profitably for the establishment of industries manufacturing paints, varnish and turpentine. Large quantities of resin tapped in the district are exported to Bareilly and Bijnor.

Tanning of hides and skins, adopting modern techniques, can be done within the district and such a unit can be established at Lansdowne where a large number of cobblers live and work. The finished leather can be used to lay the basis for setting up shoe making units in the household sector.

In view of the emphasis being laid on the development of horticulture and in the interest of the sustained growth of the sector, fruit canning and processing units could be established in the district. This will also help in developing the economy of the area.



# CHAPTER VI

## BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

### BANKING AND FINANCE

#### History of Banking

The region covered by the present district of Garhwal had, from early times, a flourishing external trade with Tibet and also some with the adjoining regions covering the present districts of Dehra Dun, Bijnor, Chamoli, Almora and Naini Tal. The inhabitants lived in small and scattered villages, distant from each other, communications between them being difficult as the footpaths connecting the villages were even worse than bridle-paths. The cultivators lived on their own stocks which usually lasted for not more than six months. Formerly such transactions as the taking and repaying of loans were generally made in kind and professional bankers were few and far between. The development of road transport has facilitated the flow of pilgrims since the thirties of this century and trade between places in and outside the district has increased. This traffic added to the stocks of the traders, in order to dispose of which they established shops, some of them setting up as money-lenders as well. Generally they traded in kind and, to a small extent, in cash. The advances of money were few and the rates of interest varied from 15 to 50 per cent per annum. The position was more or less the same till a few years after Independence (in 1947).

**Modern Banking**—The Punjab National Bank opened a branch office at Kotdwara in 1952 and in the next year the District Co-operative Bank, Ltd, was established there. The State Bank of India opened a branch office at Pauri in 1956 and by the year 1970 it had established its branches at Kalagarh and Lansdowne and the Punjab National Bank its at Dogadda and Srinagar. The U. P. State Co-operative Land Development Bank, Ltd, established a branch at Pauri in 1973 and another at Srinagar in May, 1975. The District Co-operative Bank, Ltd. Kotdwara has 5 branches, one each at Pauri, Srinagar, Bironkhal, Naogaon-khal and Lansdowne.

#### Rural Indebtedness

In the beginning of the twentieth century, rural indebtedness in this area was general and was looked upon as a natural state of affairs, as the majority of cultivators required, for agricultural and personal needs, loans which they obtained at a rate of 25 per cent per annum in addition to the *ganth khulai* (fee

for opening the knot of the purse string's) from zamindars or money-lenders. Loans for meeting social, agricultural and religious obligations such as marriages and funerals, purchase of cattle, food and clothes etc. had to be obtained somehow by most cultivators for which they sometimes had to pay a rate of interest as high as 75 per cent per annum. When the advance was in the form of grain for seed or food, the usual rate was usually *sawai* (a quarter more) but sometimes it was even as high as *deorha* (one and half times higher than the quantity taken on loan). The rate of interest was lower when security was offered and ranged between 6 to 13 per cent per annum. When the security took the form of a land mortgage, the interest was as low as 4 per cent per annum.

For decades large numbers of the men of the district have taken up service in the army and the police and have added to the money in the district although it was not possible to say to what extent the people were assisted by these cash remittances from outside. About a decade after the First World War (1914-18) when the world economic depression set in, it influenced adversely the economic condition of the agriculturists of the district. Falling prices led to a fall in incomes and people with small holdings were hard hit and they found it difficult to repay their debts. The general condition of the agriculturists was that of struggling in great poverty.

Though high prices had to be paid for non-agricultural necessities such as wool, cloth, oil, implements and utensils, the high prices of agricultural products which prevailed during the period of the Second World War (1939-45) gave the agriculturists goods returns in terms of money some being able to repay many old debts. The prices of agricultural commodities also continued to rise leading to the aggravation of the financial difficulties of the common man. There was also considerable increase in the population of the district, which went up from 14.12 per cent in the decade 1951-61, to 14.66 per cent in the decade 1961-71, adding to the economic problems of the cultivators and generally speaking landless labourers and cultivators with small holdings are still in debt. The percentage of agriculturists in debt is 30.

Though not a very remunerative occupation, agriculture is the main stay of the district economy. The agricultural economy of the district is one of subsistence as the farmers cannot generate enough savings for investment in agriculture. According to a survey of the State Bank of India, the credit requirement of the farmers even for short term periods was as high as Rs 25 to Rs 141 per acre.

**Urban Indebtedness**—Industrial and office workers residing in the urban centres of Kotdwara, Pauri and Srinagar are also generally indebted. This is a natural consequence of the rising prices since the beginning of the seventies. Salaries of working

class people have increased but who not in proportion to the increase in the cost of living. Even with a small family a worker finds it difficult to make both ends meet. There has been a phenomenal rise not only in the price of food-grains but in the rent of houses, cost of medicines, household services and the price of cloth.

### Debt-relief Legislation

The government made attempts to regulate the terms and conditions of money-lending through legislation. The Usurious Loans Act, 1918, authorised the courts to reopen transaction and to relieve the debtor of all liability in respect of any excessive interest when they found that the interest was excessive and transactions between the parties substantially unfair. By an amendment in 1926, the Act was made applicable to all parties seeking relief from mortgage. But it did not provide a satisfactory definition of the terms 'excessive' and 'unfair' which made it difficult for the courts to determine whether a transaction was 'unfair' or the interest 'excessive'. An amendment effected in 1934, made the Act generally applicable to all debtors and debts and prescribed definite limits beyond which the rate of interest should be deemed to be 'excessive'.

The United Provinces Agriculturists' Relief Act, 1934, followed the severe economic depression of the thirties. It gave some measure of relief to agriculturists as *inter alia* it provided for payment of debts in instalments at a low rate of interest. The U. P. Temporary Postponement of Execution of Decrees Act, 1937, provided for the unconditional stay of proceedings for the execution of decrees against tenants and those proprietors whose land revenue did not exceed Rs 1,000 a year.

The United Provinces Debt Redemption Act, 1940, provided further relief from indebtedness to agriculturists and workmen. It applied to suits and decrees against indebted agriculturists whose rent and ten times of whose local rate did not in the aggregate exceed Rs 1,000 and against certain categories of workmen. It required the accounting of interest at low rates and protected the person and property of the debtor from being proceeded against in execution of decrees. Under an ordinance issued on October 2, 1974, all debts of landless persons have been frozen.

### Commercial Banks

There are six branches of two commercial banks in the district, one each at Kalagarh, Pauri and Lansdowne of the Punjab National Bank and one each at Deogadda, Srinagar and Kotdwara of the State Bank of India.

Commercial banking in the district has been growing slowly. In the matter of the mobilisation of savings, there has been a growth from 15.8 to 62.1 per cent per annum in the deposits of

the State Bank of India since 1966, as shown in the following statement:

Year	No. of accounts	Amount of deposit (Rs)	Per capita deposits (Rs)	Percentage growth of total deposits (for a year)
1966	2,232	38,00,000	1,700	—
1967	3,068	51,60,000	1,682	62.1
1968	3,567	66,32,000	1,860	28.5
1969	4,169	76,81,000	1,842	45.8
1970	4,858	96,80,000	1,993	26.0

The total deposits of all commercial banks at the close of business on December 31, 1969 and 1970, amounted to Rs 1,08,39,000 and Rs 1,40,00,000 respectively, the State Bank of India's deposits amounting to Rs 76,81,000 and Rs 96,80,000 respectively. On the basis of these figures the average per capita deposits with the commercial banks on December 31, 1969 and 1970, comes to Rs 18.4 and Rs 23.2 respectively.

Advances given by commercial banks have increased appreciably after 1969 when the banks were nationalised. The gearing of these operations started in 1968 and the process is continuing. Between 1968 and 1969, the advances of commercial banks increased by 63 per cent and between 1969 and 1970 they increased by 500 per cent, that is, six times.

Another feature is that till 1968, the State Bank of India, among all commercial banks, had a complete monopoly in the field of the provision of credit. Even during 1969, the bank had virtual though not a complete monopoly in this respect. But by the end of the 1970 it had been surpassed by the Punjab National Bank, which took the lead in the provision of credit to the district economy. This is due to the large-scale financing of transport operators by the Kotdwara branch of the Punjab National Bank which by the close of 1970, had advanced Rs 7,65,000 to 28 transport operators. Medium-term loans to assist the purchase of automobiles made through its Kotdwara branch, went up to Rs. 12,98,000 by March 31, 1971.

The amount of short-term loans advanced to small-scale industries and traders at the end of 1970, was Rs. 4,49,000, the share of the State Bank of India being Rs 3,52,000 (about 79 per cent). The extent of medium-term loans advanced to small-scale industries by this bank on that date was Rs 76,000, no advances being made by the Punjab National Bank.

The data given in the statement that follows reveals that all 1967 credit operatives were greatly circumscribed :

### Advances by Commercial Banks

Year	Commercial banks		Percentage share of State Bank of India	
	No. of accounts	Advances (amount in Rs.)	No. of accounts	Advances (amount in Rs.)
1966	12	36,000	100.0	100.0
1967	15	35,000	100.0	100.0
1968	31	1,62,000	100.0	100.0
1969	89	2,64,000	92.3	94.3
1970	128	15,74,000	56.5	49.8

On the basis of the estimated population of the district in December, 1970, the per capita advance of commercial banks as on that date amounted to Rs 2.6 or 15.6 for family of six members. The per capita advance of the District Co-operative Bank, Ltd, was Rs 6.6 or 39.6 for a family of six members.

The credit-deposit ratio of commercial banks in 1970 was 11.25 per cent and that of the District Co-operative Bank, Ltd, was 310 per cent. It will be seen from these figures that the commercial banks have to go a long way to become dispensers of credit in the district.

The following statement indicates the comparative backwardness of this State and of district Garhwal in the matter of credit distribution by the commercial banks :

Relevant particulars	Garhwal	U. P.	India
	1970	1968	1968
Average population served by branch of bank	82,000	91,000	52,000
Per capita deposits (in Rs.)	23.3	41.10	60.30
Per capita advances (in Rs.)	2.6	13.20	60.30
Average deposits per branch (in Rs.)	20,00,000	51,60,000	58,50,000
Average credit per branch (in Rs.)	2,25,000	16,50,000	41,30,000

**Government Loans**—It has been a tradition since the days of Akbar for the State to provide funds for agriculturists in distress and the British government followed the same policy and loans (*tagavi*) were advanced to agriculturists from 1896. With the attainment of Independence in 1947, it has been the policy of the government to advance loans not only for distress but for the overall development of agricultural economy and this policy has been applied in the district also.

The following statement states the amount of the loans advanced in the five years ended 1974-75 :

Year	Amount (in Rs)	Purpose	Rate of
			interest (per cent per annum)
1970-71	4,000	Repair of land damaged by heavy rains	5.50
1971-72	34,000	Repair of land and houses damaged by heavy rains	5.50
1972-73	29,000	Repair of land and purchase of bullocks	5.50
1973-74	30,000	Repair of land damaged by heavy rains	5.50
1974-75	29,000	Repair of land damaged by heavy rains	8.50

### Co-operative Movement

The Co-operative movement had a late start in the district in 1939 but gathered momentum after 1947. The origin of the movement goes back to the days of the Second World War, when co-operative development unions were organised to sell commodities, the prices of which were controlled. The movement made headway after the war and touched various sheres of economic activity such as credit, housing and marketing and Garhwal is one of the districts where the bulk of loans is advanced by co-operatives. During the year 1968-69, there were 459 primary credit and service societies and 62.75 per cent of the rural population took advantage of the services of these institutions. There were 88,619 agriculturist families in the district of which 55,643 opted for membership of the primary co-operative societies. The following statement indicates the progress of the movement till the year 1970 :

Particulars	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70
Number of co-operatives	459	459	459
Membership	52,277	53,462	58,283
Share capital (in Rs)	2,91,000	14,50,000	15,30,000
Reserves (in Rs)	1,74,000	1,86,000	2,05,000
Deposits (in Rs)	3,60,000	3,18,000	3,19,000
No. of borrowers	9,764	8,183	8,106
Loans advanced (in Rs)	28,21,000	28,21,000	33,21,000
Per capital loans advanced (in Rs)	288.92	344.73	409.70
Overdues (in Rs)	3,02,000	8,32,000	8,76,000
Percentage of overdues as against loans advanced	8.90	21.30	20.20

In 1974, there were 396 primary agricultural co-operative societies in the district which advanced Rs 64,46,000 to agriculturists at an interest of 11 per cent per annum. The total membership of the societies was 62,751. The overall number of societies decreased after 1970, as the small societies were amalgamated to form larger societies. Of the 396 societies in the district 284 were found to be uneconomic in 1974 and the outstanding debt of the societies had also increased from Rs 51,32,000 in 1971-72 to Rs 71,63,000 in 1973-74.

**Other Co-operative Institutions**—The District co-operative development federation, Ltd was established at Kotdwara in 1941 in the wake of rising prices.

The federation is working in the district as a central institution for consumers co-operative, which handled business worth Rs 60,00,000 in 1968-69. One of the constituent units of the federation which is located at Kotdwara is the marketing society for food-grains. It has set up a plant for the processing of rice and mustard oil. The society also advances loans to its members. The following statement indicates the progress of the district co-operative development federation from 1967-68, to 1969-70 :

Particulars	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70
<b>Membership</b>	202	188	196
Share capital (in Rs)	63,000	63,000	1,63,000
Reserves (in Rs)	1,52,000	1,55,000	1,99,000
Deposits (in Rs)	51,000	53,000	60,000
<b>No. of borrowers</b>	288	504	538
Loans advanced (in Rs)	18,13,000	19,67,000	32,88,000
Loans out standing (in Rs)	2,98,000	2,80,000	2,73,000

The federation buys and sells food-grains, consumer goods, fruits and vegetables. It has established sale depots at Pauri, Lansdown, Bironkhal, Ramnagar and Satpal. Commodities worth Rs 8,46,000 were sold in 1974, a sharp decline from the sale figure of 1960 which was of the order of Rs 21,06,000. The profit of the federation has also decreased from Rs 22,000 in 1960 to Rs 16,000 in 1974. The total investment of the federation was Rs 2,27,000 in 1974.

**Co-operative Banks**—The District Co-operative Bank, Ltd. was established at Kotdwara in 1953. It has five branches, one each at Pauri, Srinagar, Bironkhal, Naogaonkhal, and Lansdowne.

The bank finances the co-operative institutions of the district and also provides banking facilities to its members. The

following statement indicates the economic progress of the bank :

Particulars	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70
Share capital (in Rs)	10,24,000	10,47,000	10,93,000
Reserves (in Rs)	1,30,000	1,30,000	2,09,000
Deposits (in Rs)	9,76,000	10,99,000	15,18,000
Borrowings from banks (in Rs)	19,94,000	18,94,000	19,25,000
Loans advanced (in Rs)	32,36,000	27,14,000	40,48,000
Loans overdue (in Rs)	2,72,000	7,55,000	3,14,000

The bank advanced Rs 68,53,637 in 1974 at a rate of interest ranging from 11.50 to 15 per cent per annum. The total value of its deposits was Rs 34,89,293 in that year, when its profit amounted to Rs 31,191.

The Uttar Pradesh State Co-operative Land Development Bank, Ltd, opened a branch at Pauri in 1973. The bank provides long term loans for agricultural development and for planting orchard. It advanced Rs 20,000 to two persons for starting apple orchards at an interest of 9.5 per cent per annum in 1974. The total profit of the bank in that year was Rs 10,029. Another branch of the bank was opened at Srinagar in May, 1975.

### National Savings Organization

The post-office savings bank scheme has been operating in the district since the last decade of the nineteenth century. This and other subsequent small-savings schemes have been initiated to tap the savings of those who generally do not subscribe to government loans and in order to inculcate the habit of thrift in people and make funds available to the government for investment in development schemes. In 1962 defence deposit and national defence certificate schemes were introduced in order to raise funds for the defence of the country.

The scheme of premium prize bonds was introduced on January 1, 1963. Bonds were made available in the denominations of Rs 5 and 100 and were encashable five years after the date of sale with a premium of 10 per cent, each holder being eligible for participate in two draws for prizes.

The total deposits lodged with the post-office savings bank amounted to Rs 3,31,37,000 and Rs 2,66,57,000 on March 31, 1970, and February 28, 1971 respectively. The fall in the value of deposits was due to the transfer of the deposits lodged in the suboffices in district Chamoli to the newly established post-office at Gopeshwar (headquarters of district Chamoli) in October, 1970. Prior to that the Pauri post-office was the controlling

authority for the suboffices both in districts Garhwal and Chamoli. The data relating to the post-office deposits are given below :

*Closing Balance of Post-Office Savings Bank Account*

Year	No. of accounts	Amount of Deposits (Rs)	Per capita deposits (Rs)
1968	60,959	2,54,63,000	417.70
1969	69,881	2,85,06,000	407.93
1970	77,211	3,31,37,000	429.18
1971	53,934	2,66,57,000	494.29

The figures of the aggregate deposits for the year 1971 are not comparable to those of the year 1970 for the reason already stated above. Between 1970 and 1971 the per capita deposits increased by 13 per cent and except for the year 1969, there has been a consistent increase in the per capita deposits of the post-office savings bank. The following statement give some particulars about the various savings schemes handled by post-offices of the district :

*Post-office Savings Bank Accounts*

Year	Deposits (Rs)	Withdrawals (Rs)	Net accretion (Rs)
1967-68	16,22,000	11,90,000	4,32,000
1968-69	13,83,000	13,62,000	23,000
1969-70	15,53,000	11,38,000	4,15,000
1970-71	9,40,000	7,12,000	2,28,000

*Post-Office Cummulative Time Deposits and Fixed Deposits*

Year	Deposits (Rs)	Withdrawals (Rs.)	Net accretion (Rs.)
<b>Cumulative Time Deposits</b>			
1968-69	10,12,000	2,99,000	7,13,000
1969-70	10,98,000	3,44,000	7,54,000
<b>Fixed Deposits</b>			
1968-69	1,13,000	—	1,13,000
1969-70	57,000	—	57,000

### National Defence Certificates

Year	Deposits (Rs)	Discharges (Rs)	Net accretion (Rs)
<b>12-year Certificates</b>			
1968-69	16,39,000	11,68,000	4,71,000
1969-70	23,06,000	15,61,000	7,45,000
<b>Ten-year Certificates</b>			
1968-69	2,27,000	76,000	1,51,000
1969-70	5,32,000	52,000	4,80,000

On December 31, 1974, there were 8,136 account's of all securities with a net value of Rs 64,92,700 in the post-offices of the district.

### Life Insurance

The life insurance corporation of India established an office at Kotdwara on July 25, 1973, which operates the life insurance business in the district.

The following statement indicates the progress of the life insurance business in the district in the three years ended 1974-75 :

Year	No. of persons insured	Total premium paid (in Rs)
1972-73	985	2,92,000
1973-74	924	3,28,000
1974-75	1,232	4,56,000

The per capita life insurance was worth Rs 48 in 1970 and Rs 104 in 1974 but only 23 per cent of the total population of the district was covered by life insurance.

### Currency and Coinage

The old Garhwali rupee, current since the days of the Panwar rajas of Srinagar, was equivalent to 12 annas or three-fourths of a British Indian rupee. Another coin was known as the 'timashi' (equal to three annas) and four 'timashis' constituted a rupee. Each Garhwali king struck his own coin with his own inscriptions although the coins of the predecessors continued to be used unless the dynasty itself was changed. It appears that in this border kingdom coins belonging to different rulers and countries were used freely for a long time till the British issued their own rupee which comprised 16 annas, an anna being divided into 12 pies or 4 paise old.

The decimal system of coinage was introduced in the district on October 1, 1958. The rupee has been divided into 100 paise. There are coins of 1 paise, 2 paise, 3 paise, 5 paise, 10 paise, 20 paise, 25 paise and 50 paise in circulation. Old eight-anna coins equivalent to 50 paise and four anna coins equivalent to 25 paise are still in use.

The currency consists of one rupee notes and coins issued by the Government of India and bank notes issued by the Reserve Bank of India which issues notes of the denominations of two, five, ten, twenty, fifty and one hundred. Currency and coinage are made available to the district through branches of the State Bank of India which are located at Dogadda, Srinagar and Kotdwara. Each bank is provided with a currency chest, which is a receptacle in which stocks of new or re-issuable notes are stored along with rupee coins.

#### TRADE AND COMMERCE

##### Course of Trade

The district had trade relations with Tibet (in the Central Himalayas) from very early times. The Bhotiyas, residents of the higher valleys in district Chamoli, carried on this trade which was their chief means of livelihood. They exported food-grains such as barley, wheat, rice, dal, *jhangora* and *mandua* and onions, potatoes, jaggery, tobacco, sugar, spices, dried fruits, cloth of various kinds and silver vessels. The imports were horses, ponies, zubus, goats, sheep, dogs, wool and woollen goods, drugs, salt, and Chinese shoes. Tibetan saddles, tea, butter, gold, yak tails and horns and costly things like musk and *gandharana*, salt and borax were taken in exchange for grain and for other articles the Bhotiyas gave either cash or piece goods. The means of transport utilised were chiefly sheep, goats, and yaks on whose backs were stung small woollen bags called *karbozas*. Some traders and shopkeepers residing in the urban centres of Srinagar, Pauri, Lansdowne, Bah Bazar and Dogadda, made the journey to the plains themselves if they had any special commodities such as turmeric, hillies or hemp to dispose of.

In the past there was brisk internal trade in salt and wool which was imported from Tibet. Trade between villages was usually conducted on the basis of barter, the object of which was the acquisition of some special commodity, usually paid for in grain. In prosperous years surplus rice, wheat and ghee were sold to the shopkeepers who traded along the pilgrim routes. Small local trade was also done in honey, baskets and hemp.

The trade with Tibet came to a standstill in 1962 and the Bhotiyas are no longer seen going up and down the trade routes. They are still engaged as shopkeepers and carpet weavers but not so gainfully as the profits are not as substantial in ordinary goods as they used to be in the trade of rare goods. With the develop-

ment of roads after 1962, trucks can reach the important centres in the district and consequently the quantity of imports and exports has increased. The importance of Kotdwara has increased and it occupies the most prominent position in the district. Being situated at the foot of the Garhwal hills and being the only such commercial centre, it serves as a gateway to the two districts of Garhwal and Chamoli.

### Exports and Imports

The pattern of trade has not changed to any considerable extent over the decades. The main exports of the district are timber, resin, herbs, apples and potatoes. The imports comprise food-grains, pulses, sugar, salt, kerosene oil, cloth, medicines and utensils.

The following statement mentions the commodities exported from the district in 1974:

Commodity	Approximate value (Rs)
Timber	10,00,000
Resin	2,00,000
Potatoes	50,000
Apples	10,000
Herbs	2,000

Exports find their way to the plains via Kotdwara, Srinagar and Rishikesh. The district is deficit in food-grains which it imports from the plains. The following statement mentions the imports of food-grains to the district as in 1974 :

Commodity	Quantity (in quintals)
Wheat	1,00,000
Rice	13,00,000
Coarse food-grains	40,000
Wheat flour	60,000

The above-mentioned commodities, as also other consumer goods, are imported from Moradabad, Bijnor, Bareilly and Meerut via Kotdwara and Rishikesh.

### Trade Centres

The Lansdowne market was the most important wholesale market in British times. With the extension of communications after 1950, Kotdwara also developed into a big wholesale

market and as such occupies the most prominent position in the district. Other important trading centres are Pauri, Srinagar, Dogadda and Rudraprayag. Next to Kotdwara, Rudraprayag is by far the most important trading centre in the district because it is situated not only at the confluence of the Alaknanda and Mandakini but also at the junction of roads leading to Kedarnath and Badrinath, the holy centres of Hindu pilgrimage. Although Rudraprayag is situated in district Garhwal, it also caters to the needs of district Chamoli which does not have any trading or commercial centre worth the name. The other trading centres, Pauri, Dogadda and Srinagar, are of local importance only and provide goods for the people of their own areas. The trade centres at Kotdwara, Rudraprayag, Lansdowne, Dogadda, Pauri and Srinagar are regulated markets.

The following statement states the quantities of good-grains that were distributed from these wholesale markets in 1974 :

Market	Quantity of goods distributed (in quintals)
Kotdwara	13,00,000
Pauri	8,00,000
Lansdowne	7,00,000
Srinagar	7,00,000
Dogadda	6,00,000
Rudraprayag	4,00,000

Rice, barley, gram pulses, *mandua* and *jhangora* are traded in these markets.

Trade and commerce are handicapped to a great extent in this district due to the poor means of transport and communications and the lack of demand from the local population, which is poor and has a low disposable income. Due to the cost of transport and other incidental charges, the price of most of the goods is higher in the district in comparison with the prices of corresponding articles in the plains. In all, there are about 145 wholesale and 2,500 retail traders in the district. Wholesale dealers collect goods from the trade centres in the plains and sell them to retail traders, who earn commission on the sales and also make a profit because of the difference in the wholesale and retail prices. The requirements of the people residing in the villages of the district are generally supplied by small local bazars. Small markets are scattered all over the district where dealers of neighbouring villages exhibit their wares. They are held twice a week and form local centres for trade in local produce. There are 23 markets in tahsil Pauri and 38 markets in tahsil Lansdowne.

## Price Control and Rationing

As a result of the outbreak of the Second World War, the prices of all commodities went up rather quickly and in order to arrest a further rise, chiefly in the urban areas, the prices of a large number of commodities were controlled and the supply of many was rationed. Some of the more important commodities thus controlled or rationed were food-grains, cloth, matches, drugs and petrol. Dealers in these commodities had to be issued licences from government. Various schemes for the rationing of food-grains, chiefly wheat and its products, gram, rice, sugar and kerosene oil have continued to remain in force with various spheres of applicability and there are 559 fair-price shops in the district of which 34 are situated in the urban centres. Wheat, rice, *ata* (wheat flour), sugar, kerosene oil and salt are sold in these shops.

## Fairs

All the fairs held in the district are of a religious character and trade is of little importance. The most important fairs are held at Pabsola and Sundar Gaon in tahsil Pauri in Jyaistha (May-June) and Kartika (October-November) respectively. The former is known as the Mundneshwar fair and the latter as the Bindeshwari or Binsar fair. The Mundneshwar fair is associated with the worship of Kali Devi and Siva and the Bindeshwari fair with the worship of Siva and each is visited by more than 10,000 persons. Blankets, medicines, baskets, metal utensils, clay toys and sweetmeats are sold in these fairs. Another important fair is held at Pauri on the occasion of Janmastami (the birthday of the Lord Krishna) which falls in the month of Bhadra (August-September). More than 6,000 persons attend this fair, where cotton cloth, garments, woollen carpets and blankets, fruits, sweetmeats, wooden boxes and utensils are sold.

## Weight and Measures

The standard measures of capacity in Garhwal used to be the *na'i* or *patha*. A *nali* of wheat, weighed 2 seers (1.86 kg.); one of rice about 1.75 seers and twenty *mutthis* (handfuls) or four *manas* were equal to one *nali*, 16 *nalis* making a *don* or *pirai* and 20 *dona khar*. In the *bhabar* the heavy seer of 90 tolas was used while in the hills the 84 tola seer was in use.

The standard of square measure was also the *nali*; and, as in the case of the measure of capacity the unit was a *nali* of wheat. Traill, the assistant commissioner of Garhwal from 1815-1835, standardised the *nali* 240 square yards, twenty *nalis* making a *bisi* or practically an acre. For long linear measures, the *hath* or cubit, the *jarib* or chain of 20 yards and the English mile were used and for longer areas of land, the *don* became the standard. The metric system of weights and measures was introduced in the

district with effect from October 1, 1960. A table showing conversion factors from old to new system is given in the appendix section at the end of the volume.

For the proper enforcement of the new system, the Government of Uttar Pradesh established an office under the district supply officer, Garhwal, who is known as the assistant collector of weights and measures and a senior inspector and his staff look after the work under his supervision. Every trader has to submit his weights and measures for periodical inspection and every such unit is stamped after its accuracy has been verified. Camps are held in the wholesale markets where the traders are able to buy accurate weights and measures. Once every year a publicity week is observed in the markets of the district where the standard authorised measured are publicised through films, placards, hoardings and pamphlets. Traders are advised to seek the co-operation and guidance of the officials of the department of weights and measures, and weights and measures which are inaccurate and do not conform to the metric system are changed for standard ones and the defaulters are punished.

The following statement gives the number of persons found using defective weights and measures in the district and the amount of the fines realised from them :

Year	No. of persons found using defective weights and measures	Fine realised (amount in Rs)
1972-73	137	3,945
1973-74	237	9,610
1974-75	120	5,455

## CHAPTER VII

### COMMUNICATIONS

#### TRADE ROUTES AND HIGHWAYS AND MODES OF CONVEYANCE

The land routes in the district are as follows : those connecting the district with the plains, those which connect it with its neighbours on the east and the west and those that are purely local. The first are more important from the economic point of view.

The centre and west of the district have their outlet at Kotdwara railway station, the terminus of a branch of the Northern Railway (formerly of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway) from Najibabad which was opened in 1897. A cart road connecting Lansdowne with Kotdwara was completed in 1909. For all practical purposes its northern terminus was Dogadda, a rising market. The cart road between Kotdwara and Dogadda was the first stage on the long journey to the upper patti.

The second old trade route was from Fatehpur about 3 km. above Dogadda, which crossed the Langur range and descended to the Nayar river at Ukhlet, from where it bifurcated, a branch following each of the two branches of the Nayar.

The district was also connected at Banjya Devi with Afzalgarh, an important mart in the Bijnor district, by a forest road passing through Dhikala. The hill trade was largely with the by-weekly bazar at Kalagarh on this road. A good bridle-path connected Banjya Devi with Rikhnikhal.

Pauri is connected with Almora by two roads. The first passes through Bubakhal, Chiphalghat and Chaurnikhal and goes to Bungidhar where it leaves the district for Almora. The Second road proceeds via Jwalpa and Pokhra to Baijroo and goes on to Almora.

Bah Bazar in Garhwal and Devaprayag in Tehri Garhwal are situated at the junction of the Bhagirathi and the Alaknanda respectively and are connected with Pauri by a road.

The pilgrim route from Rishikesh to Kedarnath and Badrinath passes the district through the towns of Bah Bazar, Srinagar and Punar (Rudraprayag) where it bifurcates—one branch going to Badrinath and the other to Kedarnath.

Villages are well connected with their neighbours by ancient and well-made tracks. Many of these paths have acquired

more than a local importance, forming links of a chain in the communication between important markets and the interior of the district.

The district has three types of roads : State highways, major district roads and roads belonging to the Zila Parishad. The State public works department maintains the State highways, the major district roads and the Zila Parishad roads transferred to it for the purpose. The forest department also maintains roads lying within the forests.

There are in the district about 100 km. of State highways and about 250 km. of other metalled and unmetalled motor roads, which are maintained by the State and about 140 km. of bridle roads.

The forest department maintains about 130 km. of unmetalled motor roads and an almost equal length of bridle roads.

Under the crash and link road programmes undertaken between 1971 and 1974, about 60 km. of unmetalled roads were constructed by the public works department.

#### MODES OF CONVEYANCE

The means of conveyance in the past were sheep, goats, mules and *dandis*. The sheep used were of sturdy, long-legged Tibetan stock, bearing hardly any resemblance to the diminutive animals of the lower hills. Sheep are now mainly reared for wool, goats and mules still being used as pack animals.

The goods meant for transport are put in bags made of hempen sackcloth or worsted backed with leather and are strapped on to the animals.

#### Mechanised Vehicular Traffic

The development of motor roads has enabled motor vehicles to ply in some parts of this region and this has opened the hinterland to traders, tourists and visitors. In 1973, there were about 1,600 motor vehicles registered in the district of which 946 operated in the district.

With the increase in the number of motor roads, the number of trucks operating in the district has increased considerably. These trucks bring food-grains kerosene oil, coal, cloth, etc., from the plains and return with woollen goods, timber, baskets, etc. Generally, the goods from the district are moved to Kotdwara a busy station of the Northern Railway. The goods imported into the district are also brought from different States to the railhead at Kotdwara and then are loaded on trucks for onward transmission to different places in the district.

## U. P. State Road Transport Corporation

The State government roadways organisation which has been converted into the U. P. State road transport corporation with effect from June 1, 1972, started running passenger buses in this district from April, 1949. By 1974 the bus service had expanded to 44 buses covering about 2,200 km. on 16 routes.

Private buses and trucks also ply on the different routes of the district under the motor owners unions as mentioned in the following statement :

Name of union	No. of passenger buses	Trucks
Garhwal Motor Owners Union Ltd., Kotdwara	163	55
Garhwal Motors Owners Co-operative Society, Ramnagar	15	9
Garhwal Mandal Multipurpose Co-operative Society, Pauri	5	—
Ganga Bus Service, Kotdwara	9	—

### Railways

The history of the development of the railway in the district dates back to 1897 when a branch of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway from Najibabad was opened to traffic with its terminus at Kotdwara. Subsequently it was taken over by the East Indian Railway.

After the reorganisation of the railways in 1952, the railway in the district was merged in the Northern Railway, the same place, Kotdwara, continuing to be connected by rail, in consequence of which it has developed into the most important market and trading centre of the district.

### Bridges

The construction of new bridges and repairing or renovation of old ones is being done by the public works department since 1960.

### Travel Facilities

Dharmasalas exist at a number of places in the district the details of which are given in Statement I at the end of the chapter.

Lodging houses, which provide boarding and lodging, are to be found at Kotdwara, Pauri, Srinagar, Baj Bazar and Punar (Rudraprayag), of which Pauri and Srinagar have the largest number.

There are a number of inspection houses and rest houses in the district. They are maintained chiefly for the departmental officers of the public works and the forest departments. If not occupied at the time by their own officers private persons and officers of other departments can also be given accommodation in them. A list of rest houses and inspection houses is given in Statement II at the end of the chapter.

#### POST AND TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES

In the district the postal system was organised on modern lines in 1893. Prior to this, there was a skeleton form of the postal system run by the State government and district authorities under the name of the Zila Dak and Hulak System.

In the initial stage a network of about a dozen subpost-offices was spread out in the district under the Bijnor head post-office and the mails were arranged to be carried through a chain of runners. The mails starting from Kotdwara some time in the day reached Pauri in the early hours of the next morning, travelling day and night on the shoulders of runners. There were 48 post-offices in the district in 1900 of which one was the head post-office (at Pauri) 6 were subpost-offices and the remaining 41 branch post-offices. The runner system was replaced by the contract system through ponies in 1933, which in turn was replaced by the mechanical mail system through the agency of the Garhwal Motor Owners Union, Ltd, in 1948.

The pace of development of postal facilities under British rule was slow and on the eve of Independence (August, 1947) the number of post-offices in district Garhwal was 103 with one head post-office, 12 subpost-offices and 90 branch post-offices. The post-offices of the district remained under the administrative control of the Naini Tal postal division till October, 1957, after which they were placed under the control of the Dehra Dun postal division. In September, 1950, Pauri itself was made a new postal division for Chamoli and Garhwal. The pace of development and the expansion of postal facilities from 1947 to 1960 was accelerated as more than 150 branch post-offices were established during this period.

In September, 1972, two divisions were created, those of Pauri and Chamoli, for the purpose of exercising better and more effective control. The Pauri division is divided into the sub-divisions under the charge of subdivisional inspectors.

In 1971, there were 296 post-offices in the district with the head post-office at Pauri. Of these 109 post-offices were situated in tahsil Pauri and 187 post-offices were located in tahsil Lansdowne.

#### Broadcast Receivers

Radio listening sets have become popular and their number is on the increase. There were 2,154 radio sets in the district in 1971.

## STATEMENT I

## Dharmasala etc.

Reference Page 111

Town	Name	Facilities available	Management
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## Tahsil Pauri

Devaprayag	Badrinath dharmasala	Lodging only	Private
Devaprayag	Kali Kamli dharmasala	Lodging only	Private
Rudraprayag	Kali Kamli dharmasala	Lodging only	Private
Rudraprayag	Badrinath dharmasala	Lodging only	Private
Srinagar	Sant Ram dharmasala	Lodging only	Private
Srinagar	Kamleshwar dharmasala	Lodging only	Private
Srinagar	Dalmiya dharmasala	Lodging only	Private
Srinagar	Swarg Ashram dharmasala	Lodging only	Private
Srinagar	Kujun Kaleswar dharmasala	Lodging only	Private
Srinagar	Tourist House	Lodging only	Tourist Department

## Tahsil Lansdowne

Kotdwara	Panchayat dharmasala	Lodging only	Private
Lansdowne	Panchayat dharmasala	Lodging only	Private

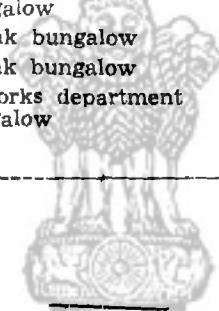
## STATEMENT II

Inspection House, Dak Bungalows, etc.

Reference Page 113

Village/town	Name	Managing department/authority
Tahsil Pauri		
Adwani, Patti Paidulsyun	Adwani dak bungalow	Forest department
Adwani, Patti Paidulsyun	Zila Parishad rest house	Zila Parishad
Bemgidas, Patti Chaudhan	Public works department inspection house	Public works department
Chauti Khal, Patti Bhach- hausyun	Chauti Khal dak bungalow	Forest department
Daira, Patti Chauthan	Daira dak bungalow	Forest department
Devaprayag, Patti Kaudiral- syun	Public works department inspection house	Public works department
Khirsu, Patti Chalansyun	Paithani dak bungalow	Forest department
Mushagali, Patti Ghurador- syun	Public works department inspection house	Public works department
Nautha, Patti Bali Kandwal- syun	Public works department inspection house	Public works department
Paithani, Patti Kandalsyun	Paithani dak bungalow	Forest department
Pithundikhel Kandwalsyun	Rest house	Jal Nigam
Pauri	Public works department inspection house	Public works department
Pauri	Bishram Grah	Nagarpalika
Pauri	Sainik Bishram Grah	District, sailors' soldiers', and airmen's board
Rudraprayag	Public works department inspection house	Public works department
Rudraprayag Srinagar	Rudraprayag dak bungalow Public works department inspection house	Forest department Public works department
Srinagar	Zila Parishad rest house	Zila Parishad
Thalisain, Patti Choprakot	Public works department inspection house	Public works department
Vyasghat, Patti Baneslyun	Public works department inspection house	Public works department

1	2	3
<b>Tahsil Lansdowne</b>		
Adalikhali	Public works department dak bungalow	Public works department
Baijroo	Forest dak bungalow	Forest department
Dogadda	Public works department dak bungalow	Public works department
Dhikala	Forest dak bungalow	Forest department
Kotdwara	Irrigation inspection house	Irrigation department
Lansdowne	Zila Parishad dak bungalow	Zila Parishad
Lansdowne	Public works department dak bungalow	Public works department
Naugan Khal	Forest dak bungalow	Forest department
Naugan Khal	Public works department dak bungalow	Public works department
Panali	Forest dak bungalow	Forest department
Pokhara	Forest dak bungalow	Forest department
Satpuli	Public works department dak bungalow	Public works department



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## CHAPTER VIII

### MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

In 1971, the population of the district was 5,53,028 of which workers numbered 2,51,093. A study of the occupational structure of the working population reveals that nearly 51,950 persons were engaged in miscellaneous occupations. An idea of how the non-farm workers were distributed among major categories of miscellaneous employment may be had from the following statement :

Industry	3,730
Trade and commerce	3,981
Live-stock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantation and orchard deve- lopment and allied activities	4,074
Transport, storage and communications	1,894
Construction	1,413
Mining and quarrying	70
Other services	36,788
 <b>Total</b>	 <b>51,950</b>

#### PUBLIC SERVICES

With the growing responsibility of the government towards planned economic and social development, employment opportunities at different levels under the Central and State governments have increased considerably in the district (as elsewhere). The number of persons employed in the district and the different types of establishments in which they work are mentioned in the following table :

Type of establishment	No. of establishments		No. of employees	
	1973	1974	1973	1974
Central Government	11	12	721	1,289
State government	98	104	6,045	6,135
Quasi-government (Central)	5	6	114	137
Quasi-government (State)	3	3	273	240
<b>Local bodies</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>776</b>

Persons in the above-mentioned services fall under the category of fixed-income earners, who are hard hit by the ever rising cost of living. Dearness allowance is paid to all classes of government employees at rates varying in accordance with their salaries. Benefits like provident fund, pension and medical treatment are available to government as well as employees of local bodies. Leave rules have been revised by the government to provide more relief to its employees. Other benefits include granting of advances for the purchase of a conveyance and the construction or repair of a house. Residential accommodation at moderate rent is made available where possible and suitable house rent allowance is also paid in lieu thereof, to certain categories of employees but such accommodation is not available in the district and such employees have to make their own residential arrangements. Non-practising allowance is given to medical staff holding posts prohibiting private practice. Government employees are free to form associations or unions for their welfare and for the protection and improvement of their service conditions. The State employees of the district have joined the State employees' joint council and the ministerial employees associations which is affiliated to its parent body at the State level. The employees of the local bodies have become members of the local authorities employees' association and the employees of the State road transport corporation are members of the employees' road transport corporation joint council which are associated to the apex organisation at the State level.

#### LEARNED PROFESSIONS

##### Education

In ancient times, in the district (as elsewhere in the country) education was more or less the exclusive concern of religious teachers and institutions and were what village schools and *pathshalas* there were, were run mostly by the pundits (Brahmanas). In those days teachings was an act of philanthropy and no tuition fee was charged. The modern system of education has gradually replaced the traditional system and the class of village tutors by professional school and college teachers. Teaching continues to be regarded as a noble profession.

According to the census of 1961 there were 2,142 teachers (2,014 men and 128 women) in the district, of whom 312 (260 men and 52 women) were employed in higher secondary schools, 1,561 (1,522 men and 39 women) in senior basic and junior basic schools, 19 (all women) in nursery schools and 250 (232 men and 18 women) in unclassified institutions.

In 1974 there were 2,479 teachers in the primary schools, 910 in junior Basic schools and 1,350 in higher secondary schools of the district.

Since 1964 the triple-benefit scheme has been in force in the State-aided institutions run by local bodies or private management. The scheme provides facilities of contributory provident

fund, compulsory life insurance and pension, including family pension, to teachers. Teachers employed in government institutions are entitled to all the benefits available to other State government employees of the State government.

Teachers' wards are entitled to free schooling up to the intermediate stage. Needy and disabled teachers can get financial assistance from the national foundation for teachers' welfare fund. Principals, headmasters, or headmistresses of government higher secondary and normal schools and women teachers serving in primary schools in rural areas, are entitled to residential quarters where they are available. The teachers of the district have organised themselves into various associations. The chief aims of these association are to look after the welfare of their members and to suggest ways and means of improving service conditions, pay and allowances.

### Medicine

Before British times, the Ayurvedic and Unani systems of medicine were practised by *vaid*s and *hakim*s respectively. With their consequent of the district is 1815, the British introduced the allopathic system in the district and allopathic dispensaries were opened with the result that the Ayurvedic and Unani systems began to be frowned upon. In due course the homoeopathic system also entered the field and many people from the less affluent sections of the population take recourse to it.

In 1961, there were in the district 83 medical practitioners of all these systems of medicine and 318 nurses, pharmacists and other medical and health technicians. In 1974, the State hospitals and dispensaries had on their staff about 34 doctors, 146 nurses, compounders, *dais*, health visitors and other staff members.

### Law

In the district the profession attracts law graduates and a few retired persons possessing a degree in law. In 1974, there were 25 practising lawyers in the district, each having one *moharrir* (clerk) or more depending on the size of the clientele. The State government appoints district government counsel for its criminal, civil and revenue case work in the district courts from amongst eligible legal practitioners. Lawyers occupy a position of respect in the social life of the district. They supply leadership in almost all spheres of public activity particularly in the social and political. Most of the lawyers practice at the district headquarters, as the courts are located there.

The legal practitioners of the district have organised themselves into the Pauri bar association and Lansdowne bar association which are registered bodies. The main aims of these associations are to promote and safeguard the interests of the legal profession.

In 1961, there were 20 legal practitioners and advisers and 22 jurists and legal technicians including petition writers.

## **Engineering**

Engineering services in this district are represented mainly in four branches, buildings and roads, irrigation, local self-government engineering and Electricity Board. They have separate divisions of survey, designs and construction. In 1974 these branches employed about 131 engineers and junior engineers. The municipal board, Pauri, and the Zila Parishad have two engineers each. A large number of linemen and draughtsmen are also engaged in these branches. Several industrial establishments of the district have on their pay roll qualified engineers and diploma holders. There are also some engineers and diploma holders, architects and surveyors who work privately for fees.

## **DOMESTIC AND PERSONAL SERVICES**

### **Domestic Servants**

In the district whole-time domestic servants are employed only by a few well-to-do persons. With the increasing cost of living people prefer to employ part-time workers for doing domestic chores, payment being made monthly in cash or in kind.

According to census of 1961, there were 774 (28 being women) butler, barbers, waiters, maids and other servants (all domestic) 479 (3 being women) cooks, cook-cum-bearers (domestic and institutional) 4 house-keepers, matrons, stewards (domestic and institutional) and 619 gardeners (6 being women).

### **Barbers**

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Barbers occupy an important position in social life as their services are considered to be essential at the time of marriage and death. Formerly a barber acted as a go-between in marriage negotiations but now the practice is falling into disuse as the parents and guardians themselves make the negotiations. In rural areas the barber has more than a professional status whereas in the towns the relationship between the barber and the customer is confined to the former's work of shaving and hair dressing etc. In 1961, according to the census, there were 107 barbers and related workers of whom 78 were in the urban areas.

### **Washermen**

In villages most people do washing of their own, a practice which has now been adopted by people in the towns as well because of the rising wages and the unpunctual performance of dhobis (washermen). Ironing of clothes is done either at home or by dhobis. There were in the district 57 launderers (including dhobis), dry cleaners and pressers in 1961, the launderers doing business mainly in the urban areas.

## Tailors

In 1961, there were 2,377 (528 being women) tailors, cutters, furriers and related workers. In the rural areas tailoring is limited to simple cutting out and sewing of ordinary garments such as shirts, coats, pyjamas, kurtas and blouses.

## OTHER OCCUPATIONS

In 1961, there were 2,744 sports and recreation workers; 1,216 blacksmiths, hammersmiths and forgemen; 958 farmers and farm managers, 840 bricklayers, masons and construction workers; 589 drivers of road transport including *palki* and *doli* bearers; 511 loaders and unloaders; 500 carpenters, joiners and cabinet makers, coopers and related workers; 452 millers, bakers, brewers and related food and beverage workers; 386 watchmen and chaukidars; 338 building care-takers, cleaners and related workers; 335 basket weavers and related workers; 281 postmen and messengers; 254 tool makers, machinists, plumbers, welders, platers and related workers; 245 bakers, confectioners, candy and sweetmeat makers; 231 ordained and non-ordained religious workers; 183 spinners weavers, knitters, dyers and related workers; 179 jewellers, goldsmiths and silversmiths; 174 architects, engineers and surveyors; 124 mechanics-repairmen, electrical and precision instrument repairers; 106 crushers and pressers of oil-seeds; 92 hawkers, pedlars and street vendors; 78 electricians and related electrical and electronic workers; 70 compositors, printers engravers, bookbinders and related workers; 32 painters and paper hangers; 19 astrologers, palmists and related workers; 15 dancers and related workers; 10 fishermen and related workers and 9 precision instrument makers, watch and clock makers and repairers

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# CHAPTER IX

## ECONOMIC TRENDS

### LIVELIHOOD PATTERN

#### Workers and Non-workers

In 1961 the ratio of workers and non-workers in the district was 58.9 and 41.1. It is nearly in reverse order to the corresponding ratio for the State which was 39.1 and 60.9. Of the total workers in the district, cultivators and agricultural labourers comprised 86.2 per cent, followed by 5.2 per cent workers in other services and 3.3 per cent in mining and quarrying. In other categories the percentage was very small. Female participation was significant and the percentage among total workers was 57.5 as against 6.7 per cent for the State. The extent of female participation in agricultural activities was higher than in non-agricultural activities, accounting for 98.1 per cent and 1.9 per cent respectively.

The comparative position of 1961 with that of 1971 is as in 1961, comprising 59.7 per cent workers and 40.3 per cent non-workers. The corresponding percentages for the urban area were 45.6 and 54.4 respectively. Thus the proportion of workers was lower in towns than in villages. Of the total of 1,09,420 workers in the rural areas in 1961, cultivators and agricultural labourers were 89.8 per cent and the remaining 10.2 per cent were engaged in non-agricultural activities. There was a preponderance of non-agricultural workers in the urban area, the percentage being 88.9.

The comparative position of 1961 with that of 1971 is as follows :

Year	Total population	Total No. of workers	Percentage of workers to total population			District Uttar Pradesh
			Agricultural	Non-agri-cultural	total no. of workers	
1961	4,82,327	2,83,936	50.9	8.0	58.9	39.1
1971	5,53,028	2,51,093	36.0	9.4	45.4	30.9

The statement indicates a formidable decrease in the working population indicating unemployment even amongst the already employed persons of 1961. This anomaly has arisen due to the change in the definition of 'worker' in 1971. That adopted in the 1961 census included many persons in the category of workers. In 1961 as little as one hour's work in a day entitled a person to be treated as a worker. Accordingly a women whose time was basically utilised in household duties was defined as

'worker' even if she carried food to the field (for others) and tended the cattle. But in the census of 1971 a man or woman who was engaged primarily in household duties such as cooking for one's own household, even if helping in the family's economic achievement as a part-time worker, was not treated as a worker and placed in the category of non-worker. This is the reason for the decrease in the number of total workers in 1971 in spite of the increase in the population by about 14.6 per cent from 1961.

In the 1971 census, workers have been classified in nine major categories, the basis of the classification being those economic activities which were similar in respect of process, raw material and products. The details of these nine categories of workers, are as follows :

Type of category	No. of males	No. of females	Percentage		Percentage workers population
			Total	to total	
<b>Cultivator</b>	72,559	1,23,319	1,95,878	78.0	35.4
<b>Agricultural labourer</b>	1,855	1,410	3,265	1.3	0.6
Live-stock development, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantation raising, orchard development and allied activities	3,563	511	4,074	1.6	0.7
<b>Mining and quarrying</b>	66	4	70	—	—
Manufacturing, processing servicing and repairs					
(a) household industry	1,904	177	2,081	0.8	0.4
(b) other than household industry	1,614	35	1,649	0.6	0.3
Construction	1,380	38	1,418	0.6	0.2
Trade and commerce	3,953	28	3,981	1.6	0.7
Transport, storage and communications	1,880	14	1,894	0.8	0.4
Other services	35,587	1,201	36,788	14.7	6.7
<b>Total workers</b>	1,24,361	1,26,732	2,51,093	100.0	45.4
<b>Non-workers</b>	1,36,693	1,65,242	3,01,935	—	54.6
<b>Total population</b>	2,61,054	2,91,974	5,53,028	—	100.0

As will be observed, all the non-workers have been grouped together in a single class though classified in the census as follows :

- (a) full-time students
- (b) those attending to household duties
- (c) dependants and infants

- (d) retired persons and rentiers
- (e) persons of independent means
- (f) beggars and vagrants
- (g) inmates of penal, mental and charitable institutions
- (h) others

### GENERAL LEVEL OF PRICES AND WAGES

#### Prices

It is difficult to ascertain the prices of the principal food-grains obtaining in early times as in those days every family aimed at growing enough food for itself. When scarcity disturbed this self-sufficiency the people were compelled to tap the markets further afield. There are no records extant to give an idea of the prices that prevailed earlier than 1900 about which year the prices of wheat, rice and gram are known to have ranged from 16 to 20 seers for a rupee. In 1911 wheat was sold at 10 seers, ordinary rice at 4 seers and gram at 8 seers for a rupee.

After the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, a series of changes in prices, including a considerable rise in the cost of food-grains, was witnessed in the succeeding years. In 1916 the price level in the region now covered by the district of Garhwal was higher by 66 per cent and in 1928 by 73 per cent over the rates prevailing in 1911.

The world-wide economic depression, which started in 1930, continued in the years that followed and was severe. Consequently in 1934 the price level went down by about 47 per cent and as compared with that of 1928 and by 45 per cent as compared with that of 1916.

After the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939, there was a steep rise in prices, largely due to speculation and profiteering. Other factors like the holding back of stocks in anticipation of further shortages, contributed in no small measure to maintain and even to advance the high level reached in prices. At the beginning of 1940 price control measures, which had been put into operation on the outbreak of the war, were enforced vigorously by the district authorities. These measures included fixation of prices (as modified from time to time), institution of prosecutions to check profiteering and licensing of food-grain dealers. Even then the prices continued to go up and it was experienced that effective control of prices was not possible without control over supplies. Therefore, to ease the situation, a partial rationing scheme was introduced in the towns of Pauri and Lansdowne, in December, 1943, for the poorer sections of the people and the markets were allowed to function normally. In March, 1944, this partial rationing was converted into a hundred per cent rationing under which the facilities of obtaining rationed food-grains at subsidised rates from government shops without disturbing the normal sale of food-grains in the markets, were thrown open to every one. By leaving the market free simultaneously, the possibility of a breakdown in supplies was averted.

The availability of obtaining certain food-grains at cheaper rates from government shops induced the dealers to reduce their own prices and to bring out their hoarded stocks. But as these measures also failed to ease the market position, total rationing was resorted to and the sale of rationed commodities was banned in the market.

It was expected that with the end of the war and the enforcement of price control measures by government, the general food situation would ease but such was not the case. In 1944 the prices stood higher by 236 per cent than those of 1941 and by about 190 per cent than those of 1939. The period between 1944 and July, 1952, was that of rationing and controls when prices attained a new height. From August, 1952, markets were allowed to function normally and restrictions on movements and prices of food-grains were also withdrawn. Food-grains to ration card holders continued to be supplied from ration shops under an informal rationing scheme, in order to arrest any rising trend. In the rural areas coarse food-grains were supplied from 1946 to 1955 through fair-price shops under a hill provisioning scheme after which wheat and rice were also included in the supplies.

Expectations of an immediate fall in the prices of food-grains and the easing of the food situation as a result of the relaxation of controls from August did not materialise. On the contrary prices of nearly all food-grains kept on rising. Towards the end of 1953, prices tended to come down a little. The normal forces of demand and supply once again started to operate. Neither was the cultivator sure of getting a fixed minimum price for his grains nor the trader of his commission on the grains supplied by him. The nervousness of both led to a further decline in prices. As a result, the downward trend, which had started in 1953, could not be arrested and by 1955 prices fell considerably down. This was a Statewide trend, which required to be checked in the interest of the overall economy, particularly for the cultivator, who needed to be assured of minimum prices, so that he could continue to till his land. The government, therefore, took measures in 1953-54 to support the minimum prices, which started a gradual upward trend. The average retail prices in Pauri for certain years from 1955 are given below :

Year	Prices (in Rs per kg.)		
	Wheat	Gram	Rice
1955	0.35	0.27	0.50
1960	0.54	0.46	0.61
1966	1.28	1.01	1.37
1970	1.67	1.21	1.20
1973	1.21	1.89	1.72

The average retail prices of certain other essential commodities, as prevailing in 1973, were as follows :

Commodity	Prices (in Rs per kg.)
Dal <i>arhar</i>	3.50
Ghee	14.28
Jaggery	2.10
Firewood	0.08
Mustard oil	7.16
Sugar	3.93

### Wages

About 1900, an ordinary coolie was paid Rs 0.25 a day but when paid by the month accepted Rs 6.00. An ordinary mason and a carpenter earned from Rs 15 to Rs 20 a month and a blacksmith a little more.

A wage census was first carried out in the State in 1906. According to the wage censuses between 1906 and 1944, the wages for skilled and unskilled labour were as follows :

Year	Wages (in Rs per day)	
	Unskilled labour	Skilled labour
1906	0.19	0.37
1911	0.29	0.72
1916	0.30	1.56
1928	0.69	1.75
1934	0.44	1.00
1939	0.50	0.75
1944	1.09	2.50

After the First World War, a marked all round rise in wages occurred as revealed in the wage census of 1928. The year 1930 was one of world wide economic depression which was reflected in the census of 1934, after which wages began to rise. The steep rise in 1944 was attributed to the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939. Wages continued to move upwards, as shown in the following statement :

Year	Wages (in Rs per day)	
	Unskilled labour	Skilled labour
1955	1.47	2.50
1960	1.52	3.20
1965	3.67	5.37
1973	5.33	3.75

The wages normally paid to different categories of workers in Pauri town in the year 1973-74 are indicated in the chart below:

Worker	Unit of quotation	Wages (in Rs)
Gardener	Per month	125.00
Chowkidar	Per month	125.00
Wood-cutter	Per 40 kg. of wood turned into fuel	0.50
Herdsman	Per cow/buffalo per month	2.00
Porter	Per 40 kg. of load carried for a km.	1.00
Casual labourer	Per day	5.00
Domestic servant	(a) Per month, without food (b) Per month, with food	100.00 50.00
Carpenter	Per day	10.00
Blacksmith	Per day	15.00
Tailor	(a) Per cotton shirt (long sleeves) for man (b) Per cotton shirt (short sleeves) for woman (c) Per woollen suit	3.50 3.00 50.00
Midwife	(a) For delivery of a boy (b) For delivery of a girl	30.00 25.00
Barber	(a) Per shave (b) Per hair-cut	0.30 0.75
Scavenger	Per month for a house with one latrine for one cleaning per day	3.00
Motor driver	Per month	250.00
Truck driver	Per month	200.00

#### GENERAL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT

#### Employment Trends

The statement given below will show that there has been a considerable increase in the number of persons employed in the private sector but that in the public sector the increase was insignificant

during 1969-73. The data relate only to a few selected establishments which participated in an enquiry made by the employment exchange authorities :

Year	No. of establishments			No. of employees		
	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total
1969	69	112	181	1,353	18,680	20,033
1970	65	117	182	1,234	9,371	10,605
1971	63	120	183	1,344	9,791	11,135
1972	62	123	185	1,325	7,424	8,749
1973	54	138	192	1,331	7,895	9,226

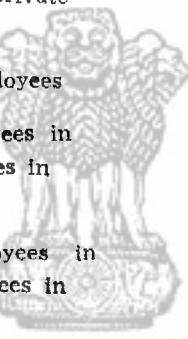
When further classified according to the activity pursued, the number of persons as given for 1972 and 1973, in the foregoing statement, stood as follows :

Nature of activity	No. of reporting establish- ments			No. of employees					
	1972		1973	1972			1973		
				Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total
Agriculture, live- stock development, hunting and fishing	15	17	—		1,622	1,622	—	1,789	1,789
Manufacturing	9	5	75		81	156	41	94	135
Construction	11	15	47		796	843	52	908	900
Electricity, gas, water and sanitary services	4	6	—		246	246	—	307	307
Trade and commerce	12	10	90		86	176	79	131	200
Transport, storage and communications	5	6	152		398	550	184	459	643
Services (public, legal, medical, etc.)	129	133	961		4,195	5,156	975	4,317	5,192
<b>Total</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>1,325</b>		<b>7,424</b>	<b>8,749</b>	<b>1,331</b>	<b>7,895</b>	<b>9,226</b>

### Employment of Women

The extent of employment of women workers is indicated by the following statement which shows their number in the private and public sectors during the year ended December, 1973 :

	No. in December, 1973
No. of reporting establishments	192
No. of women employees in public sector	411
No. of women employees in private sector	31
Total number of women employees	442
Percentage of women employees in public sector of total employees in that sector	5.2
Percentage of women employees in private sector of total employees in that sector	2.3



The proportion of women workers in different spheres in the quarter ended December, 1973, was as follows :

Sphere	Percentage
Education	23
Medical and public health	20
Transport	3
Manufacturing	21
Construction	3
Services	25
Electricity, gas and water	3
Agriculture, live-stock development, forestry, fishing and hunting	2

## Unemployment Trends

The educational standards of men and women who registered for employment during the year ended December, 1973, were as follows :

Educational standard	Men	Women
Post-graduate	53	15
Graduate	686	44
Higher secondary and intermediate (below graduate)	1,251	73
Matriculate	1,683	98
Below matriculate (including literate)	4,936	290

During the quarter ended December, 1973, the Pauri employment exchange was asked to recommend candidates for 79 posts, all needed by the State government.

The district experienced a shortage of trained compounders, teachers for Sanskrit and Arabic, stenographers, trained science graduates (with Mathematics) and of matrons, there being a surplus of persons having no previous experience and technical training.

## Employment Exchange

The following statement gives the output of the two employment exchanges from 1969 to 1973 :

Year	Vacancies notified by employers	No. of persons registered for employment	No. on 'live' register	Persons provided with employment			Government service	Other
				Teaching	Technical jobs	Other		
1970	1,437	5,902	1,665	10	175	840	7	
1971	1,673	6,520	3,008	20	128	1,097	3	
1972	1,466	5,879	3,890	30	84	860	1	
1973	1,841	8,726	5,843	43	342	1,171	15	
1974	1,166	7,981	5,558	33	126	888	12	

The exchange introduced the employment market information scheme in the district in 1958. Under it an intensive study was carried out to ascertain the number of persons employed, the posts fallen vacant and the type of employment for which qualified candidates were not available, in a quarter of the establishments in the public and some selected ones in the private sectors.

The vocational guidance and employment counselling programme is also being carried out by the exchange since 1969. Under this project material assistance is provided to seeking candidates to enable them to formulate their plans in conformity with their qualifications, aptitude and the realities of the employment market. In 1974 some 1,043 candidates and 36 educational institutions sought individual guidance.

### National Planning And Community Development

The subject of national planning and rural development received little attention under British rule and whatever efforts were made in this direction were merely the outcome of political expediency and were confined to activities such as sanitation, expansion of agriculture and providing of irrigational facilities. When the first Indian National Congress government came into office in 1937, a scheme for rural development was adopted in certain villages of the district. The scope of the scheme was expanded and a rural development association was formed at district level. The functions of the association, which had a non-official chairman and a subdivisional magistrate as secretary, were more or less advisory in nature. They largely covered rural hygiene, construction of roads, establishment of libraries, construction of panchayat ghars, holding of night schools for adults and allied developmental activities. With the Congress government going out of office in 1939, the rural development programme also dwindled. In 1946, the rural development department was merged in the co-operative department and the rural development association was replaced by the district development association with a non-official as chairman and the district co-operative officer as secretary.

The first genuine and planned effort to improve the living conditions of the rural people followed the setting up of the planning commission of India in 1950. In the First Five-year Plan (1951-56) stress was laid on improving agricultural practices and developing the village community through national extension service schemes and people's participation in different activities. The constructions of earthwork on building and village roads, making of drains and brick pavements, digging of soakage pits etc. was done by voluntary labour (*shramdan*). Improved methods of agricultural and use of compost manures were also introduced. Tube-wells and other facilities for irrigation were augmented. The district planning committee, with the district magistrate as chairman and the district planning officer as secretary, replaced the district development association. It had a number of sub-committees for the preparation and execution of the Plan programmes but its role continued to be advisory. The development block was the unit of operation into which each subdivision of the district was divided for implementation of the Plan programmes of each department. Dhangu, with headquarters at Dwarikhali, was the first community development block of the district which was established on January 26, 1954, and it was followed on January 26, 1956, by Thalisain.

The scope of the Second Five-Year Plan (1956-61) was enlarged to include industrialisation and it aimed at increasing the national income by 25 per cent and to reduce unemployment. In the field of agriculture, schemes relating to the Japanese method of paddy cultivation, the U. P. method of wheat cultivation, expansion and training in the use of improved agricultural implements and of chemical and green manures were taken up. The district was divided into development blocks for the implementation of the Plan schemes. In 1958 the antarim Zila Parishad, which was the precursor of the Zila Parishad, was formed by amalgamating the district planning committee and the district board. For the co-ordinated execution of the different Plan schemes, the resources of the agriculture, co-operative, animal husbandry, panchayat raj, health, plant protection, etc., departments, called the Plan departments, were pooled and put under the control of the district planning officer. During the Third Plan period (1961-66) a three-tier structure of rural self-governing bodies was adopted with effect from December 1, 1963, to harness the people's participation and for the successful implementation of the planning and development programmes. With its formation the village panchayats began to function at the village level, the Kshettra Samities at the block level and the Zila Parishad at the district level.

The district has 14 development blocks, all in post-stage II, some details about which are given below :

Tahsil	Name of block*	Date of inauguration	No. of gaon sabhas	No. of nyaya panchayats	Population (in 1971)
Lansdowne	Dhangu (Dwarikhali)	26.1.54	164	15	55,136
"	Bironkhali	2.10.56	87	10	47,407
"	Ekeshwar	1.4.60	83	10	31,518
"	Nainidanda	1.10.60	105	10	32,774
"	Pokhra	1.10.60	56	6	23,121
"	Dogadda	1.10.62	130	13	76,746
"	Rikhnikhal	2.10.62	69	6	27,510
"	Lansdowne (Jaiharikhali)	1.4.63	71	9	28,276
Pauri	Thalisain	26.1.56	63	7	36,015
"	Pauri	1.4.57	60	6	28,351
"	Khisu (Devalgarh)	1.4.58	54	6	34,392
"	Kot (Jhajan)	1.4.60	63	7	28,229
"	Barahsyur (Kalgikhali)	1.4.61	75	9	32,088
"	Pabau	2.10.62	57	7	31,064

\* Location of the block headquarters is given in parentheses in cases where it is outside the block

The Third Five-year Plan was conceived as the 'first stage of a decade of more intensive development leading to a self-reliant and self-generating economy'. It sought to ensure a minimum level of living to every family while narrowing economic and social disparities. Some special programmes, such as provision of improved variety of seeds, particularly those of the dwarf variety, intensive methods of wheat and paddy cultivation and crop protection measures were taken in hand. The next three years from April, 1966, to March, 1969, did not form part of the next Plan period, instead yearly plans for these three years were formulated with the following broad objectives :

- (i) a growth rate of 5 per cent in the agricultural sector and 8 to 10 per cent in industry
- (ii) an annual growth rate of 6.9 per cent in production of food-grains to achieve self-sufficiency
- (iii) to maximise employment opportunities within the proposed growth rate
- (iv) to redress imbalances arising from a high rate of population growth and inadequate expansion in agricultural production by reducing the fertility rate of the people to 25 per thousand in the shortest possible time.

During the Fourth Plan period (1969-74) many small industrial units were established in the district.

Increased facilities for education, transport and health services and special emphasis on the improvement on the conditions of the backward classes and the grant of subsidies to them for starting small crafts, were instituted by government.

The implementation of the development plan schemes has helped in raising the standard of living, providing better wages and living conditions and in helping the general economic growth of district. The growing industrialisation side by side with increased agricultural production, holds a promise of ushering in an area of increased prosperity and of better economic conditions for the people of the district.

## CHAPTER X

### GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

After the annexation of the district by the British in 1815, the territory covered by the present district remained a part of the province of Kumaon. In 1837 Garhwal became a separate subdivision under an assistant commissioner, and in 1891 was constituted a district.

Pauri is the headquarters of the district which forms a part of the Division consisting of the districts of Garhwal, Dehra Dun, Tehri Garhwal, Chamoli and Uttar Kashi. The headquarters of the commissioner of the Garhwal Division is located at Pauri.

#### **Commissioner**

This officer functions as a vital link between the districts under him and the government. He has a substantial amount of administrative experience and supervises all administrative and development activities in his Division. He controls, guides and advises the district and regional level officers, solves inter-departmental problems and assesses the work of the officers of the various departments. On the appellate side, his jurisdiction extends to hearing appeals and revisions under the Kumaun and Uttarakhand Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1960, and other enactments, such as the U. P. Arms Act, 1959, etc. He is the chairman of the regional transport authority and has extensive powers for the supervision of the Zila Parishad, municipal boards and other local bodies.

#### **District Officer**

The general administration of the district is vested in the district officer, designated as deputy commissioner who exercises various powers and performs certain duties in the capacity of a district magistrate under the Code of Criminal Procedure and numerous other Acts. As head of the revenue administration he is called the collector.

The district officer is the highest executive authority in the district and is the pivot of the entire general administrative machinery in the district. He represents the government in the district practically in all spheres. As head of the revenue administration, his main duties are the recovery of land revenue and other government dues and ensuring that the land records are maintained correct and up to date and he is in direct charge of the government treasury. He is expected to tour every year in the interior of his district. On the visitation of natural calamities such as floods, excessive rains, fires, hailstorms, droughts, etc., his duties become especially onerous.

He is responsible for the maintenance of law and order as head of criminal administration in the district. He keeps watch on the general crime situation and has to ensure that no outbreak of disturbances occur. During any such situation the entire magisterial and police administration is integrated under his authority. He has to maintain a close watch on the investigation and prosecution of criminal cases and the upkeep of under trials and prisoners in the jail. He is responsible for the enforcement of the Press Act, 1931, the Stamp Act, 1899, and also the Entertainment and Betting Tax Act, 1937. He has also to ensure equitable distribution of food-grains and other essential commodities through fair-price shops with the help of the district supply officer. He is ex-officio district election officer and also president of the district soldiers', sailors' and airmen's board.

The multifarious role of the district officer makes it his responsibility to take up projects and assignments which are introduced by the government from time to time and which relate to general welfare activities connected with planning, development, census, Van Mahotsava, wild life preservation, securing investments for small savings, raising of loans for the State government and the sale of State lottery tickets, etc. He is responsible for distributing surplus land to landless labourers in the district for which purpose he is assisted by an additional district magistrate now designated as additional district magistrate (finance and revenue).

For co-ordination of the different development departments functioning in the district he is assisted by a district development officer at the district level and a block development officer at the block level.

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He is the controller of civil defence and the district registrar. The tahsildars at Pauri and Lansdowne perform the functions of subregistrars for the registration of documents and title deeds, etc.

The subdivisional officers, performing various duties concerning revenue and criminal administration and also assisting development work within their subdivisions, act under the control of the district officer. Those in charge of the two subdivisions of the district are designated subdivisional officer and magistrates. Their duties are mostly similar to those of the district officer but confined to their subdivisions only. They conduct identification proceedings, record dying declarations and assist in the enforcement of various laws, orders, rules and regulations.

For purposes of revenue administration the district is divided into two subdivisions, each forming a tahsil of the same name Barahsyune (or Pauri) and Lansdowne. Each tahsil is in the immediate charge of a resident tahsildar who acts as a magistrate in addition to being an assistant collector. His main duties are the inspection of *jamabandi* (tahsil account book), collection of land revenue and other governmental dues, the maintenance of land records and law and order and the trying of revenue and criminal

cases. He is also responsible for relief measures when needed especially during the times of natural calamities. Each tahsildar is also the subtreasury officer in charge of the tahsil subtreasury. They are assisted by four *naib* tahsildars, 2 *peshkars* and 169 *patwaris*. An additional subdivisional officer also resides at Lansdowne.

Formerly, for the administration of law and order, the district was under the jurisdiction of superintendent of police, Bijnor in the Bareilly range. On November 29, 1962, it was separated from Bijnor and was placed under the deputy inspector general of police, hill range, Naini Tal. Now a separate Garhwal police range has been established under the deputy inspector general of police, Garhwal, with headquarters at Pauri.

A deputy superintendent of police has been appointed for the maintenance of law and order in the district, who is endowed with all the powers of a superintendent of police. He is assisted by a number of inspectors, head constables and constables in the civil and armed police.

The judicial organisation of the district is headed by the district judge with headquarters at Tehri Garhwal, and is under the jurisdiction of the high court of judicature at Allahabad. Previously the headquarters used to be at Tehri with jurisdiction extending to Tehri, Chamoli and Uttar Kashi as well. He is the highest authority in the district for the administration of justice in civil and criminal matters.

#### **Other District Level Officers of State Government**

The designations of other district level officers in the district working under the administrative control of their departmental heads are as follows :

Assistant Engineer, Minor Irrigation

Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies

Conservator of Forests

District Supply Officer

District Inspector of Schools

District Live-stock Officer

District Agriculture Officer

Chief Medical Officer

District Employment Officer

District Harijan and Social Welfare Officer

District Industries Officer

District Statistics Officer

Executive Engineer, Jal Nigam

Sales Tax Officer

Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department

Superintending Engineer, Canals

Treasury Officer

Zila Basic Shiksha Adhikari

## CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES

**Directorate of National Savings**—The district falls under the jurisdiction of the assistant regional director, national savings, with his headquarters at Dehra Dun. The district development officer is the officer in charge of the national savings organisation in the district. He is assisted by a district savings officer who is stationed at Pauri for educating the public about the benefits of small savings and popularising the various schemes of national savings launched by the government from time to time.

**Indian Posts and Telegraph**—The district is itself a postal division which is divided into three subdivisions : Pauri (North), Pauri (South) and Lansdowne, each under the charge of a sub-divisional inspector designated as inspector, post-offices. There is also an inspector of the savings bank and a complaints inspector for providing better savings bank and other facilities in the division. There are two head offices at Pauri and Lansdowne, for the consolidation of the accounts of all the post-offices in the division.

**Directorate of Field Publicity**—The field publicity unit, established in the district in June, 1966, is one of the 21 units working in the Uttar Pradesh region under the overall administrative control of the regional publicity officer who is stationed at Lucknow.

It aims at giving information on current social, economic, cultural and educational subjects to the people through films, talks and cultural and other programmes and through folk-song and plays. It also organises special programmes during fairs, *jiyas* (conducted tours) and exhibitions on certain special days, in schools and colleges for students and in industrial areas for workers.

The officer in charge of the organisation in the district is the field publicity officer and has a staff consisting of a field publicity assistant and some other subordinate officials.

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## CHAPTER XI

### REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

#### Fiscal History

The region covered by the present district of Garhwal remained under Hindu rajas from very early times to the beginning of the nineteenth century. They had introduced the system of revenue assessment according to their requirements from time to time and this practice remained in force in this district starting with Kanakpal, in Chandpur in district Chamoli, and with Ajaipal (1358-1370), till the time of Pradyuman Sah (1785-1804), the ruler of the Panwar dynasty. The amount of the agricultural revenue assessed from ancient times was generally one-third of the total produce. Probably till the beginning of the 19th century, in order to meet the expenditure on the area, nearly 30 taxes were imposed on the land-holders, the important ones being a capitation tax and house tax. These taxes were summed up under the nomenclature of *chhattis rakam* and *battis kalam*, meaning thirty-six items of royal revenue and thirty-two of ministerial fees<sup>1</sup>.

In 1800, the revenue amounted to two lakhs of *kutcha* rupees, equivalent to about 1,60,000 standard rupees, which excluded house tax. The revenue free landholders were called *muafidars* who collected the revenue from the *khaikars* (akin to under-proprietors in the plains), in cash which generally varied from one-third to two-fifths of the gross produce. The duties of the *daftaris* (revenue officials) corresponded to those of the *kanungos* of the plains who were assisted by *mufassils* or deputies who kept the revenue records and maintained accounts of arable lands. This practice led to general oppression. The records were imperfectly maintained and debased on account of arbitrary estimates of the cultivable area which included terraced fields but excluded waste and forest lands. The records were very rarely revised and the lands which were held revenue free were entered in the records as having double their actual area.<sup>2</sup>

In 1804, the present district was overrun and occupied by the Gurkhas who retained their hold on it till 1815 when the district was annexed by the British. They introduced their own revenue system abolishing the previous one but retained *nazrana* (premium), *nankar* (capitation-tax), *tandkar* (tax on looms) *mij hari* (tax on Doms), *Salamya* (premium paid for acquiring a lease), *sonya phagun* (presents at public festivals) as well as taxes on houses and pastures and the ministerial fees paid to the *kanungos*, *kamins* (landholders authorised to collect revenue in a village) and *padhans* or *sayanas* (headmen).<sup>3</sup>

1. Walton, H. G. *op cit*;

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 87-88

3. *Ibid.*, p. 89

In 1815, the present district having been wrested from the Gurkhas with British help, the territories of the Tehri raja were divided into two portions. The British annexed one portion, which became the present district of Garhwal (then known as British Garhwal) with its headquarters at Pauri, the other, Tehri Garhwal remaining with its raja. In that year the British government made several revenue Settlements in succession, as briefly described below.

### **First Settlement**

The first Settlement was made in 1815 by Traill, the settlement officer. The assessment was based on the receipts of the preceding year as recorded by the *kanungos*, a deduction of 25 per cent being allowed for the difference in currency. The collection of revenue was farmed out to the *kamin* or *sayana* of the villages for one year.

### **Second and Third Settlements**

The operation of the next Settlement started in 1816 and this time a village-wise survey was made. The work of revenue collection was entrusted to the *padhans* of the *pattis* and their share in the land was kept in view, as also the state of cultivation and the changes in land brought about by erosion. Those shareholders who were made responsible for collecting the revenue from the other shareholders and paying it to the government were known as *padhans* or *malguzars*. As remuneration they were given a small revenue-free lease of land in the village in their own name.

Third Settlement was merely an extension of the second and covered a period of three years (1817-1819).

### **Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Settlements**

The fourth Settlement was settled in 1820 for a period of three years, followed by three other Settlements, each being made for five years. The fifth Settlement came into effect in 1823. The sixth was made in 1828 and the seventh in 1833. The underlying feature of these Settlements was that the assessment was generally on the demand and the collection of the previous year. The revenue demand was about Rs 34,703 in 1821, Rs 42,572 in 1824, Rs 44,008 in 1829 and Rs 44,527 in 1834. In 1822 a register containing particulars about the nominal boundaries of the villages, the names of the proprietors and the estimated areas of the fields owned by them, was prepared for each village. This record was known as the *assisal bandobast*.

### **Eighth Settlement**

The operations commenced in 1837, under Batten and completed in 1840 with the preparation of the *fardphant* which

contained a record of the estimated areas of cultivable land, the estimated cultivation in two main categories irrigated (I, II and III) and unirrigated (I, II, III)—and the revenue paid at the preceding Settlements. It also included the names of shareholders, under-proprietors or occupancy tenants and a record of the dues paid to *kissedars*, *padhans* and *thokdars*. The Settlement was made in 1840 for a period of 20 years, the revenue demand being Rs 45,678 in 1843.

### Ninth Settlement

Operations were commenced in 1856 and completed in 1861. A record of rights, a *muntakhib* (list of fields with names of cultivators), a *tehrij* (list of fields held by each cultivator), a *phant* (register of the holdings of each proprietor and *khaikar*) and records of the revenue or cesses payable by the cultivator, were prepared. Records of rights in respect of *gunth* (assignment of land made for the maintenance of temples), *tababart* (assignment of land revenue for providing food and other assistance to pilgrims) and *muafi* (revenue free) villages were prepared as also of the cesses imposed. The soils were classified into irrigated, dry (first class), dry (second class), periodically cultivated (terraced) and waste (terraced). For purposes of assessment, these soils were reduced to a common standard by doubling the revenue for the irrigated area and taking one-third more from the first class areas, dry land being taken as the standard, its revenue remaining unchanged and waste land being omitted entirely. This Settlement was made for a period of 20 years, the revenue demand being about Rs 72,106 in 1862.

### Tenth Settlement

सत्यमेव जयते

The operation of the tenth Settlement commenced in 1891, with a cadastral survey of the district, excepting certain tracts in the north and was completed in 1896, the revenue demand being fixed at about Rs 1,12,353. The soils were classified into first-second-and third-class irrigated, first-second-and third-class dry and *ijran* or *katil* (cultivated every third or fourth year). These seven classes covered the assessable area.

The assessment was based on the application of the standard revenue rate fixed for the circle to the number of *zarb bisis*, the number of which, for a village, was arrived at by multiplying the number of *bisis* of each class of assessable land by its constant factor and adding the products. The unit of cultivation was taken to be one *bisi* of second-class dry land. Irrigated land was held to be three times as good as second-class dry land. It was thus possible by means of a survey and a brief calculation to arrive at the comparative value in *zarb bisis* of different villages, *pattis* and *parganas*. Assessment circles were demarcated, standard revenue rates were arrived at and the revenue was fixed for each village on the basis of the fields entered in the *muntakhib*.

The areas which were not surveyed were assessed on the basis of estimates made by the settlement officer, keeping in view the population and the number of cattle in each *patti*.

### **Eleventh Settlement**

The operation of this Settlement was commenced in 1925 and completed in 1937, the Settlement being made for a period of 40 years. The maps and records were brought up to date and village boundaries demarcated on the maps. The revenue demand fixed at the last Settlement was enhanced by 33 per cent but was subsequently reduced to Rs 77,319 by the government, the total revenue amounting to Rs 1,73,112. The revenue from *khalsa* (crown lands), *sadabart* (endowments), *gunth* and *muafi*, amounted to Rs 1,65,989, Rs 758, Rs 973 and Rs 652 respectively. The present Bhabar region was also assessed under this Settlement and an amount of Rs 1,095 was realized as revenue excluding the *khalsa*, *gunth*, *sadabart* and *muafi* lands.

In the second decade of the 20th century another tahsil was established at Lansdowne, which included parganas Salan and Chaundkot and the Bhabar. The remaining two parganas, Barahasyun and Devalgarh, remained in tahsil Pauri.

Pargana Barahasyun, with its tahsil headquarters at Pauri, consisted of fourteen *pattis*. The revenue demand was Rs 46,467 in 1925. Pargana Devalgarh, with its headquarters at Pauri, consisted of seven *pattis*. The revenue demand was fixed at Rs 21,353.

In tahsil Lansdowne, pargana Chaundkot consisted of 7 *pattis*, and the revenue demand was fixed at Rs 16,942. Pargana Ganga Salan had twelve *pattis* and the revenue demand being Rs 31,870. Pargana Malla Salan consisted of eight *pattis*. The revenue demand was fixed at Rs 30,245. Similarly pargana Talla Salan consisted of eight *pattis* and the revenue demand was Rs 25,140.

### **Abolition of Zamindari**

The Kumaun and Uttarakhand Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1960, which came into force in the district in 1965, replaced the multiplicity of tenure existing in the district by three types: the *bhumidhar*, *sirdar* and *asami*. The intermediaries became *bhumidhars* in respect of groves held by them. Those who were *hissedars* (shareholders) and *khatikars* became *bhumidhars* in respect also of lands in their actual possession. A *bhumidhar* is a peasant proprietor having permanent, heritable and transferable rights in his holding. He has the right to use the land for any purpose and is not liable to ejection. A *sirtan* of the land of the *gaon panchayat* (land belonging to the village community) who was not a *hissedar* became a *sirdar* under the provisions of the Act. A *sirdar* has a permanent and heritable interest in his holding but can use his land only for agriculture,

horticulture and animal husbandry although he can acquire *bhumi-dhari* rights under the provisions of the Act. As on July 1, 1965, any *sirtan* holding land from a *hissedar* or *khaikar*, a mortgagee in actual possession of land, a lessee of a *hissedar* or *maurusidar* (hereditary landholder) in *non-khaikari* land in his personal cultivation or a person recorded as an occupant of land held by a *hissedar* or a *khaikar*, became an *asami*. An *asami*'s right is heritable but not transferable or permanent and he can be ejected from his holding.

### Collection and Land Revenue

Since the abolition of the system of collection of revenue through intermediaries, it is collected by government under the integrated collection scheme through the existing agency of *malquazars* and *patwaris*.

### Bhoodan

In 1951, (Acharya) Vinoba Bhave initiated in Uttar Pradesh the *bhoodan* movement with the object of obtaining gifts of land for the landless. The State government, therefore, passed the U.P. Bhoodan Yajna Act, 1952. According to the land distribution data, the total land received till 1975 was 1413-16 *nalis* (about 29 ha.) which has not been distributed so far.

### Imposition of Ceiling on Land Holdings

The U.P. Agricultural Income-tax Act, 1948, was passed to tax agricultural incomes in excess of Rs 4,200 per annum. The tax was not payable by a landholder if he did not cultivate more than 30 acres of land. This Act was replaced by the U.P. Large Land Holdings Tax Act, 1957, which imposed a tax on all land holdings, the annual income of which exceeded Rs 3,600. A landholder who did not cultivate more than 12 ha. of land was exempted from the payment of the tax. The tax was levied on a graduated scale so that the larger the holding the greater the incidence of the tax.

As a step towards social and economic justice by way of providing land to the landless and agricultural labour and distributing the land more equitably, the Uttar Pradesh Imposition of Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1960, (Amended) Act, 1972, was enforced in this district on June 18, 1973. It replaced the U. P. Large Land Holdings Tax Act, 1957. Under it the minimum area of a holding was fixed at 16.19 ha. of fair quality land. If the number of members of the landholder's family was more than five, he was allowed to retain, for each additional member an area of 3.25 ha. subject to a minimum of 9.72 ha. of such additional area. Any surplus land held by a tenure holder in excess of the ceiling was vested in the State government, the tenure holder being entitled to receive compensation. The number of landholders affected by the provisions of the Act was 14, no surplus land having been

declared so far or compensation paid in this connection till 1974. An area of about 341 ha. of non-irrigated land is expected to be declared surplus.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF TAXES OTHER THAN LAND REVENUE

In this district, as elsewhere in the State, the other main sources of revenue include Central and State taxes.

#### Central Taxes

The Central Government taxes that obtained in the district from 1970-71 to 1974-75 were excise, income-tax, wealth-tax, gift-tax and estate duty.

**Central Excise**—For purpose of Central excise the district falls under the jurisdiction of the assistant collector of Central excise, Moradabad. An inspector of Central excise posted at Najibabad is in charge of this district as well.

The excise revenue collected in the district from 1970-71 to 1974-75 was on electric battery parts, the amounts realised being as shown below :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1970-71	1,854
1971-72	1,059
1972-73	2,836
1973-74	3,783
1974-75	5,872

**Income-tax**—This is one of the most important taxes of the Central Government. For purposes of the collection of the tax, the district falls within the administrative control of the income-tax officer, Najibabad.

The following statement states the number of assessees and the amount of income-tax collected from 1970-71 to 1974-75 :

Year	No. of assessees	Amount of tax realised (in Rs)
1970-71	1,180	4,77,810
1971-72	1,206	7,97,312
1972-73	1,280	14,19,152
1973-74	1,430	10,02,517
1974-75	1,510	15,42,657

**Wealth-tax and Gift-tax**—The taxes imposed under the provisions of the Wealth Tax Act, 1957, and the Gift Tax Act, 1950, are also collected by the income-tax department. The following statement states the number of assessees and the amount of wealth-tax realised from 1970-71 to 1974-75 :

Year	Wealth-tax		Gift-tax	
	No. of assessees	Amount realised (in Rs)	No. of assessees	Amount (in Rs) realised
1970-71	45	11,973	7	2,488
1971-72	50	25,319	11	3,104
1972-73	55	44,715	9	8,843
1973-74	62	44,482	20	14,547
1974-75	62	30,099	23	2,240

**Estate Duty**—Estate duty is levied under the provisions of the Estate Duty Act, 1953, on the property left by a deceased person. The district falls under the estate duty circle, Lucknow, which is under the charge of an assistant controller.

The following statement states the number of assessees and the amount of estate duty realised from 1970-71 to 1973-74 :

Year	Below Rs One Lakh	
	No. of assessees	Amount of tax realised (in Rs)
1970-71	2	8,648
1971-72	1	553
1972-73	—	—
1973-74	3	5,535

#### State Taxes

Excise, sale of certain goods, stamps, registration, motor vehicles, entertainment, etc., are other sources of revenue for the State Government.

**Excise**—For purposes of excise administration, the district falls in the range of the assistant excise commissioner, Bareilly.

At the district level the work is looked after by a district excise officer who is departmental officer of the rank of superintendent of excise/assistant excise commissioner. In his field he exercises all the powers which were formerly exercised by the district magistrate. The district is divided into two excise circles, circle I comprising tahsil Pauri and circle II comprising tahsil Lansdowne. There are 4 excise inspectors in the district, two each

at Kotdwara and Pauri. They detect excise crimes in the district and also make inspections of liquor shops.

**Liquor**—The U. P. Excise Act 1910, was enforced in the district in 1914. Before 1914 there were no liquor shops in the district but later a few *kachchi bhatti* were opened at Srinagar and Dandapani, near Pauri. In 1918 a liquor shop was opened at Pauri and functioned till 1945-46. In 1946-47, these shops were closed due to agitations in the district and foreign liquor shops were opened at Pauri and Lansdowne. In 1957-58, two country liquor shops were again opened at Kotdwara and Lansdowne. In 1967-68, a country liquor shop was also opened at Pauri, which continued till 1971-72, the other shop being closed at the end of 1967-68.

Prohibition was declared in the district from April 1, 1972. There are four licensed foreign liquor shops in the district and the supply is made by wholesale dealers from outside the district. Liquor is supplied only to permit holders, according to the prescribed quantity sanctioned to them by the district authority.

The following statement mentions the quantity of country spirit sold from 1962-63 to 1969-70 :

Year	Sale in l.
1962-63	27,716
1963-64	31,948
1964-65	34,754
1965-66	34,343
1966-67	47,165
1967-68	60,339
1968-69	57,152
1969-70	56,252

The increase in the sale of country spirit in 1967-68 was due to the opening of one more shop at Pauri.

**Excise Revenue**—The excise revenue from 1962-63 to 1973-74 has been indicated in the following statement :

Year	Receipts (in Rs)				
	Country Liquor	Foreign Liquor	Drugs	Opium	
1962-63	3,58,066	44,153	1,648	168	
1963-64	5,31,761	1,10,520	2,321	1,087	
1964-65	5,43,616	87,786	1,543	1,016	
1965-66	5,48,736	98,763	926	18	
1966-67	7,77,084	1,00,315	451	12	
1967-68	14,00,797	7,796	626	7	
1968-69	17,80,244	19,513	1,208	15	
1969-70	30,40,000	26,977	—	—	
1970-71	—	—	—	—	
1971-72	78,800	26,788	—	—	
1972-73	—	13,299	—	—	
1973-74	—	10,190	—	—	

**Sales Tax**—Sales tax is levied under the U. P. Sales Tax Act, 1949, and also under the Central Sales Tax Act, 1957. The former has been amended from time to time to make certain changes in the limits of taxable turnover. Sugar and tobacco have been exempted from taxation. A sales tax officer has been appointed at Kotdwara for purposes of administration of the Act.

The following statement states the total amount of tax collected from above commodities in the district from 1962-63 to 1973-74 :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1962-63	5,54,074
1963-64	10,14,645
1964-65	12,85,034
1965-66	13,98,321
1966-67	13,25,437
1967-68	20,40,580
1968-69	20,49,558
1969-70	18,57,410
1970-71	21,45,530
1971-72	25,17,726
1972-73	31,62,061
1973-74	42,66,346

The number of assessees and the amount collected in respect of important commodities in 1973-74 are indicated in the following statement :

Commodity	No. of assessees	Amount of tax realised (in Rs)
Kirana	269	68,448
Food-grains	149	1,16,905
Cloth	141	3,626
Wood and timber	47	3,87,161
Sweatmeats	35	—
Rice	18	61,063
Footwear	17	97,591
Washing shop	16	16,219
Motor parts	11	7,83,336
Rosin	5	1,07,448
Iron and steel	5	12,494
Other Goods	63	82,772

### Stamps and Registration

Under the Indian Stamps Act, 1899, stamps are classified as judicial and non-judicial. The former are affixed when court fees have to be paid and the latter on bills of exchange, receipts involving a sum of Rs 20 or more and documents in respect of which stamp duty is payable. Income from this source also includes fines and penalties realised under the Act.

The receipts under this head during the five years ended 1973-74 were as follows :

Year	Amount realised from sale (in Rs)	
	Judicial	Non-judicial
1969-70	37,650	98,625
1970-71	58,748	88,764
1971-72	36,832	1,06,097
1972-73	49,964	97,059
1973-74	70,069	13,819

Documents such as instruments of gifts, sale or lease of immovable property, instruments relating to shares in a joint-stock company and wills have to be registered under the Indian Registration Act, 1908. As in other hill districts, the district magistrate, Garhwal, is also the district registrar. Registration is done at headquarters of each tahsil where the tahsildar acts as subregistrar.

The following statement states the receipts and expenditure on the establishment during the five years ended 1974-75

Year	Income (in Rs)	Expenditure (in Rs)	No. of documents registered
1970-71	44,505	10,588	2,239
1971-72	46,120	15,165	2,206
1972-73	37,826	14,137	2,034
1973-74	48,050	18,217	2,206
1974-75	63,591	26,481	1,927

### Tax on Motor Vehicles

The motor vehicles in the district are taxed under the U. P. Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1933 (Act. V of 1935), the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, the U. P. Motorgadi (Mal-kar) Adhiniyam, 1964, and the U. P. Motorgadi (Yatri-kar) Adhiniyam, 1962. The regional transport officer, Garhwal region, with headquarters at Pauri, is in-charge of the work. In 1973, the

following taxes were realized in the region under the different Acts:

Name of tax	Tax realised (in Rs)
Road tax	10,13,899
Passenger tax	21,78,898
Goods tax	3,22,198
Miscellaneous fees	1,46,795

Under the provisions of the U. P. Motorgadi (Yatri-kar) Adhiniyam, 1962, a tax was imposed from October, 1962, on passengers travelling in public or private motor vehicles on hire. The following statement states the amount of collection in the district in 1973-74 and 1974-75 :

Year	Amount (in Rs.)
1973-74	11,99,168
1974-75	16,50,489

The U. P. Motorgadi (Mal-kar) Adhiniyam, 1964, provided for the levy of a tax on goods carried by motor vehicles and was made enforceable in the district in November, 1964. The following statement states the amount of tax collected under it in the district in 1973-74 and 1974-75 :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1973-74	3,89,411
1974-75	5,23,014

### **Entertainment and Betting Tax** यापन जर्यन

Entertainment tax is realised from cinemas, circuses and other types of entertainment programmes, etc. One of the deputy collectors performs the duties of the entertainment tax officer in this district. The tax on entertainment in this district is levied under the provisions of the U. P. Entertainment and Betting Tax Act, 1937. An entertainment tax inspector has also been posted in the district.

The following statement states the amount of tax collected from 1969-70 to 1973-74 :

Year	Tax (in Rs)
1969-70	1,19528
1970-71	1,42,978
1971-72	1,55,627
1972-73	2,10,283
1973-74	2,31,767

## CHAPTER XII

### LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

#### LAW AND ORDER

By and large, the people of this district are simple and honest. Through all these years, there has been a general absence of heinous crimes. Problems in the administration of district arising out of strikes, unruly processions, communal riots, activities of organised criminal gangs and the like, hardly ever occur, except a few on the occasions of public fairs and festivals and during the pilgrimage season. The district is included in the police range of Naini Tal under a deputy inspector general of police.

#### Crime

The following statement states the number of cognizable cases reported to the police during the period 1969 to 1973 :

Year at begin- ning of year	No. of cases pending	Cases repor- ted	No. of investi- gated	No. of cases		No. of cases disposed of		
				under prose- cuted	consi- deration at begin- ning			
1969	6	147	127	65	29	59	56	3
1970	1	193	164	72	6	53	52	1
1971	1	189	169	67	19	24	24	—
1972	1	233	219	87	22	28	27	1
1973	17	219	200	77	59	35	30	5

#### Organization of Police

Prior to 1815 there was no regular police force in the area. A police-station each was established in 1816 at Srinagar, Kotdwara and Lansdowne. Some police-stations were set-up temporarily along the pilgrim routes.

#### Police-stations

In 1910, there were four police-stations, one each at Srinagar, Kotdwara, Lansdowne and Pauri. There was a subinspector in each police-station except that at Pauri and a head constable in each police-station. There were six constables each in Kotdwara and

Srinagar, nine in Lansdowne and three in Pauri. In 1921, Pauri was converted into an out-post (and was so treated till 1951), each police-station having a subinspector and a head constable. There were eight constables in Kotdwara and nine constables each in Srinagar and Lansdowne. There were a head constable and three constables in Pauri. In 1931, there were a subinspector and a head constable each in Kotdwara, Srinagar and Lansdowne and six, twelve and eight constables in Srinagar, Kotdwara and Lansdowne respectively. In Pauri there were a head constable and three constables.

There is a (temporary) regional inspector who supervises all the police-stations and police out-posts. There are two sub-inspectors, five head constables and six constables who are attached to the head office from where they supervise their out-posts.

### Revenue Police



The police organisation in the rural areas of the district is different from that in the plains. The functions of an officer in charge of a police-station for purposes of watch and ward, detection and investigation of crimes and prosecution of cases, are all performed by the *patwari* in his circle. The *patwari*, who works unaided in the plains but is assisted by a peon in this district, has to maintain law and order, keeps the land and revenue records, attend to the management of certain classes of forests and the execution of decrees of the civil courts. He gets government residence in his patti and a *nali* (a measure of grain, etc. at each harvest in his circle and is presented with the *bhet pithai* or *tika* (a small money present) by the villagers on his first appointment. He is also entitled to free food for himself and his servant when on tour. His activities are supervised by the *peshkar* (*kanungo*). The functions of the circle officer are performed by the tahsildars. In the district, the regular police, headed by a deputy superintendent of police with headquarters at Pauri, exercises jurisdiction only to a depth of 91.4 m. on either side of the road, their main duty being traffic control. Beyond this begins the jurisdiction of revenue police.

### District Police

The district police has three broad divisions—the civil police, the armed police and the prosecution unit.

**Civil Police**—The civil police has a strength of an inspector, 9 subinspectors 2 assistant subinspectors, 25 head constable and 158 constables. The district of Garhwal constitutes only one police circle with police-stations at Kotdwara, Lansdowne, Pauri, Srinagar and Lakshman Jhula.

The circle is under the charge of a deputy superintendent of police, designated as circle officer.

The following table gives some details of the police circle and the names of police-stations and police out-post in the district

Name of police circle	Name of police-station	Police out-posts
Pauri	Kotdwara	Kalalghati, Bazar Guard Dogadda
	Lansdowne	Gumkhali, Satpuli
	Pauri	Bazar Guard, Patiser
	Srinagar	Bazar Guard, Kaliasour Rudra Prayag
	Lakshman Jhula	Devaprayag

**Armed police**—The services of the armed police are utilised for protecting government property, guarding government treasuries, escorting prisoners and for patrolling duties.

**Prosecution Unit**—The prosecution work of both the regular and revenue police is looked after by a public prosecutor and two assistant public prosecutors.

**Prantiya Vikas Dal**—This organisation came into being after Independence under the name of Prantiya Rakshak Dal. Initially, the paid staff of the Prantiya Rakshak Dal was on a provisional basis and was selected in the district in 1947 for the first time. Approved candidates were given training after which they organised camps to impart training to group and section leaders. In 1954, the physical culture department was merged in this organisation for carrying out the programme of physical training and development of the people. The department was reorganised in 1957 and works relating to *mend-bundi* and youth programmes were also allotted to it. In 1971-72 the department underwent another change. It was renamed Prantiya Vikas Dal and now it, functions as a voluntary social service organisation. The paid staff in the district consists of a district organiser and 8 area organisers, the unpaid staff comprises 119 *halka sardars* (circle leaders), 1,103 *dalpatis* (group leaders), 1,103 *nayaks* (section leaders) and 11,030 *rakshaks* (guards).

**Village Defence Societies**—These societies are non-official organisations set up to protect the villagers from the depredations of dacoits and other miscreants and to inculcate in the people

of the rural areas a spirit of self-confidence and the virtue of self-help to enable them to stand up to the undesirable elements in society in defence of life and property.

### Jails and Lock-ups

**District Jail**—The building of the district jail Pauri was constructed in 1902. Since then it has undergone several improvements and modifications. It was designed to accommodate not more than 10 prisoners, long term prisoners being transferred to prisons in the plains. The incidence of crime has never been large in the district.

The capacity of the district jail (which is sometimes exceeded) has been increased to hold 33 prisoners. The deputy chief medical officer also holds the charge of superintendent of the jail. The deputy jailor, who is in immediate charge of the jail, is assisted by an assistant jailor, three head warders and ten warders. A female warder is temporarily engaged if there are female prisoners. The daily average population of the inmates between 1969 and 1973, is stated below :

Year	Convicts	Under-trial prisoners	Total
1969	11	17	28
1970	18	22	40
1971	9	18	27
1972	17	31	48
1973	12	22	34

### Welfare of Prisoners

A doctor from the district hospital looks after the prisoners who get ill. Serious cases are admitted to the district hospital. Medicines are usually provided from the jail budget and shortages are met by the district hospital.

There are two classes of prisoners, superior and inferior. Generally they all are put in the second category. Superior status is allotted by the district magistrate, the sessions judge or the high court on the basis of the prisoner's educational status, standing in public life, etc., or the nature of the offence. On admission prisoners are medically examined and in cases of injury or disease, treated accordingly.

Convicts are allowed to correspond with their relatives, etc., and to have interviews with them. Prisoners under-trial are allowed a weekly interview and others can send applications to any officer regarding their grievances.

## Official Visitors

The *ex officio* visitors of the jail are the director of medical and health services, U. P., the commissioner of the Division, the district and sessions judge and the district magistrate.

## Non-official Visitors

Ten non-official visitors are appointed by the State government for the jail.

**Lock-ups**—The only lock-up of the district is located in Lansdowne and is under the charge of the assistant public prosecutor, Lansdowne. He is provided with a writer, and a part-time cook. The lock-up can accommodate 12 under-trial prisoners at a time. The monthly average number of the under-trial prisoners was 591 in 1974-75.

## JUSTICE

### Early History

There was no regular system of the administration of justice when the Gurkhas occupied Garhwal in 1804. Each officer exercised jurisdiction according to his position and the number of men at his disposal to ensure compliance of his orders. All civil and petty criminal cases throughout the district were disposed of by the troop commandant to whom the tract was assigned. Important cases were disposed of by the civil governor of the province assisted by the military chiefs who happened to be present at the headquarters. As the commandants were frequently absent on active duty, they delegated their powers to their deputies, called Becharis. A brief oral examination of the parties was conducted in the presence of the court and in case of any doubt about the statement, the last chapter of the *Mahabharata* (the *Harivansha*) was placed on the head of the witness, asking him to tell the truth. Where eye witnesses were not available or the testimony was conflicting, as was usual in cases of boundary disputes, recourse was taken to ordeals. The three forms of ordeal in vogue were the *gola-dip* (carrying of a bar of red-hot iron in the hands for a certain distance), the *karai-dip* (hands plunged into burning oil) and *tarazu-ka-dip* (weighing the accused against stones and reweighing him the next morning; if found heavier than on the preceding evening, his innocence was considered established).

Treason alone was punishable with death. Murder, if committed by a Brahmana, warranted a sentence of banishment. All other crimes were punished with fine and or confiscation of property. Previously capital punishment was inflicted by hanging or beheading but the Gurkhalis introduced impaling and sometimes put their convicts to death by the most cruel torture.

After the area was acquired by the British in 1815, a regular judicial system was set up and under Regulation X of 1817, the commissioner was empowered to decide criminal cases except those of murder, robbery, treason and similar offences which were very rare in the region.

In 1829 two *kanungos* were appointed as *munsifs*, who under the provisions of Regulation XXIII of 1814, were empowered to decide claims for money or property upto a valuation of Rs 25, the limit being raised to Rs 50 in 1830, the appellate authority being the commissioner. In 1831, the *sadar diwani adalat* (chief civil court) and *sadar nizamat adalat* (chief criminal court) were established at Tehri, with jurisdiction extending to this area also.

The districts of Kumaon and Garhwal were separated in 1839. In 1843 the British government decided to extend the laws applicable in the plains to this area and in accordance with the Indian High Court Act, 1861, the courts of Garhwal and Kumaon were brought under the jurisdiction of the high court of judicature at Allahabad set up in 1866.

The senior assistant commissioner, designated the deputy commissioner since the beginning of the twentieth century, was in charge of the whole district, with headquarters at Pauri. He combined in himself both executive and judicial authority. As district magistrate he wielded enhanced powers of punishment conferred by Section 30 of the Code of Criminal Procedure 1898. He also heard appeals, as district judge, against the judgement given by his three assistant magistrate-cum-subjudges stationed at Lansdowne, Pauri and Chamoli.

Prior to 1953, the subdivisional officer was also *ex officio munsif* but a *munsif* with headquarters at Pauri was appointed in 1953 for trying civil cases of the Pauri and Chamoli subdivisions.

The post of district judge was sanctioned for Pauri in 1974, with jurisdiction over the districts of Garhwal and Chamoli, the seat of the judge continuing to be at Tehri. There are a chief judicial magistrate and a special judicial magistrate (both under the district and sessions judge, Tehri), a subdivisional magistrate and two additional subdivisional magistrates in the district. There are also five pleaders and 25 advocates in the district.

### **Civil Justice**

The jurisdiction of the civil courts extends to all suits of a civil nature which usually comprise suits involving property, contracts, inheritance, mortgages, specific relief, etc. in addition to ordinary money suits and suits for divorce under the Hindu

Marriage Act, 1955. The position of civil case work in the year 1974, was as follows :

Cases	Number
Pending at beginning of year	31
Instituted	6
Disposed of	4
Pending at close of year	37
Instituted for money	6

The number of suits instituted according to valuation was as follows :

Valuation	No. of suits
Not exceeding Rs 100	—
Exceeding Rs 100 but not exceeding Rs 1,000	2
Exceeding Rs 1,000 but not exceeding Rs 5,000	—
Exceeding Rs 5,000 but not exceeding Rs 10,000	3
Exceeding Rs 10,000 but not exceeding Rs 50,000	1

The total value of suits instituted during 1974 was Rs 42,931. Four suits were disposed of after being dealt with completely and one was decreed *ex parte*.

The position of appeals in the civil courts in 1974 was as follows :

Nature of appeal	Instituted	Disposed of
Regular civil	19	3
Miscellaneous	5	—
Regular rent	8	—
Miscellaneous rent	3	—

The district and sessions judge, who presides over the principal civil court of original jurisdiction, also exercises jurisdiction in matrimonial suits under the Indian Divorce Act, 1869, the Special Marriage Act, 1954, as well as in cases under the Guardian and Wards Act, 1890, the Indian Lunacy Act, 1912, and the Provisional Insolvency Act, 1920. He also exercises jurisdiction under the Hindu Minority and Guardianship Act, 1956, and under the Indian Succession Act, 1925, grants succession certificates, letters of administration, and probate. Appeals under the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, also lie to him.

## Criminal Justice

The chief criminal courts of the district are under the jurisdiction of the district and sessions judge.

Details of convictions in 1951, 1961 and 1971 were as follows :

Nature of case	No. of offenders		
	1951	1961	1971
Offences against public tranquility —		5	6
Offences affecting life	1	—	—
Cattle theft	4	2	5
Criminal force and assault	3	4	7
Theft	13	10	15
Robbery and dacoity	—	3	2

Some details regarding convictions pertaining to certain crimes from 1972 to 1974, are as given below :

Nature of offence	Year		
	1972	1973	1974
Affecting life	6	7	14
Kidnapping and forcible abduction	2	3	6
Hurt	—	1	2
Robbery and dacoity	8	8	3
Others	3	4	3

The number of cases relating to important crimes like murder, dacoity, etc., reported in the district in the three years ended 1975, are as follows :

Crime	Case reported		
	1973	1974	1975
Murder	—	9	3
Dacoity	1	—	4
Robbery	6	6	2
Riots	6	4	8
Theft	80	97	57
House breaking	52	42	36
Sex crimes	4	4	6

The *munsifs* have also been invested with magisterial powers of the first class since 1974 and try criminal cases transferred to their courts by the additional district magistrate (Judicial) and the judicial magistrates.

The number of persons tried and sentenced during the years ended 1974 was as follows :

No. of offenders	Year		
	1972	1973	1974
Tried	5	3	5
Sentenced to life imprisonment	—	—	1
Sentenced to rigorous imprisonment	2	—	1

### Separation of Executive and Judiciary

Partial separation of the judiciary from the executive was brought about in 1962 but the judicial magistrates continued to work under the administrative control of the district magistrate for the purposes of law and order duties. In 1964, all judicial magistrates were transferred to the control of the district and sessions judge.

The process reached its culmination with the enforcement of the amended Code of Criminal Procedure on April 1, 1974, which ensured an absolute separation of the judiciary from the executive. This new Code has made some far-reaching changes in the classification, nomenclature and powers of courts and has simplified and expedited the process of justice.

### Nyaya Panchayat

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*Nyaya* panchayats were constituted under the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, passed by the State legislature in 1947, which established panchayati *adalats* subsequently called *nyaya* panchayats, on August 15, 1949. Until 1960, the present district of Chamoli was also a part of district Garhwal and there were 125 *nyaya* panchayats for the entire area. The reorganisation of *nyaya* panchayats in 1973 brought the total in the present district of Garhwal to 121. There were 79 *nyaya* panchayats in tahsil Lansdowne and 42 in tahsil Pauri in 1973.

The *panchs* of the *nyaya* panchayats are nominated from amongst the elected members of the *gaon* panchayats by the district magistrate with the assistance of an advisory body. These *panchs* elect from amongst themselves a *sarpanch*, according to the procedure laid down in Section 44 of the U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, who is the presiding officer and a *sahayak* (assistant) *sarpanch*. The *panchs* are honorary workers and hold office for a period of five years, the term being renewable by the State government. A *panch* should have attended the age of 30 years and should be able to read and write in the Devnagari script.

The *nyaya* panchayats are empowered to try cases under (a) The U. P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947; (b) the following sections of the Indian Penal Code: sections relating to petty offences such as public nuisance, trespass, intimidation and threat, etc.; and cases of theft or misappropriation involving property not exceeding Rs 50 in value; (c) the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871, (Sections 24 and 26); (d) the U. P. District Primary Education Act, 1926, (Section 10); and (e) of Public Gambling Act, 1867, (Sections 3, 4, 7 and 13)

The *nyaya* panchayats are authorised to try cases of a criminal and civil nature only and they can pass sentence of fine up to Rs 100. Revisions in respect of criminal cases are heard by the subdivisional magistrates and in respect of civil cases by *munisifs*.

The number of criminal and civil cases instituted, disposed of and pending in the *nyaya* panchayats during 1969-74 is given below :

Year	Cases pending at beginning of year	Cases instituted during year	Total	Cases disposed of	Balance
1969-70	—	480	480	480	Nil
1970-71	—	325	325	325	Nil
1971-72	—	266	266	266	Nil
1972-73	—	40	40	<i>Nyaya</i> panchayat dissolved	40
1973-74	40	164	204	87	117

**Bar Association**—There are two bar associations in the district, one each at Pauri and Lansdowne. The aims and objects of these associations are to look after the interests and well being of their members as well as of the litigant public and to ensure proper administration of justice in the district. They try to promote an understanding of legal matters of general and public importance. Each association has its own office bearers (president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer) and an executive committee.

## CHAPTER XIII

### OTHER DEPARTMENTS

The departments of the State government dealing with general administration, revenue administration and law and order and justice have been described in chapters X, XI and XII respectively. The organisational set up of the departments of agriculture, animal husbandry, co-operative, education, forest, industries, irrigation and public works at the district level are briefly described below.

#### AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

The main function of this department is to increase agricultural produce by persuading cultivators to adopt modern scientific methods suited to local conditions and by providing them with improved varieties of seeds, fertilizers and chemicals for destroying insects and pests which destroy the crops. For this the district comes under the jurisdiction of the deputy director of agriculture (with headquarters at Pauri). In the district, the district agriculture officer, assisted by an additional district agriculture officer, is in the immediate charge of all agricultural programmes, including the formulation and implementation of the Five-year Plan schemes and the promotion of all agricultural activities.

The activities of this department at the block level are supervised by the block development officer who has an assistant development officer (agriculture) responsible for agricultural development programmes like intensive cultivation, the using of improved seeds, pesticides, chemical manures and the provision of technical support to various programmes, supervision of seed stores, distribution of fertilizers, recovery of dues, etc.

The agriculture inspector (supplies), who is posted at the Kotdwara buffer godown, is responsible for obtaining different types of chemical fertilizers from outside the district and making arrangements for their packing and supply to the different blocks and seed stores.

There are in the district 15 seed stores manned by 30 *kamdars*, each store being under the supervision of an assistant agriculture inspector. These assistant agriculture inspectors are responsible for meeting the requirements of the block and for the agricultural development activities of the villages adjoining the seed stores.

### **Soil Conservation**

The district has a soil conservation officer who supervises the activities pertaining to soil conservation. He is assisted by a **technical assistant**, two **overseers**, five **soil conservation inspectors** and 25 **assistant soil conservation inspectors**. Every year new areas are selected for the purpose of soil conservation. He prepares estimates of the possible income of and expenditure on the new areas and the details of work to be undertaken and familiarises the cultivators with the programme. The five **soil conservation inspectors** posted at the headquarters supervise and execute planning, budgeting, evaluation and measurements in their own sub-units. The **assistant soil conservation inspectors** assist in the masonry work within their jurisdictions and the **overseers** prepare plan estimates and supervise the masonry work. Various duties under the soil conservation scheme, such as construction of contour bunds, afforestation and minor irrigation works are also carried.

### **Horticulture**

The district horticulture inspectors are responsible for the implementation of the various horticulture schemes in the district. The district has been divided into 3 regions, each in the charge of a horticulture inspector. The district horticulture inspectors are responsible for the laying down of orchards, supplying of plants, vegetable seeds and seedlings and related work. The assistant horticulture inspector maintains the store.

### **ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT**

For purposes of animal husbandry development, the district falls under the jurisdiction of the deputy director of animal husbandry who is posted at Pauri. The district live-stock officer is incharge of this department at the district level, being responsible for improvements in the breeds of cattle and poultry, prevention and treatment of their diseases, controlling of possible outbreaks of epidemics among animals, implementation of Plan schemes of the department, helping in the execution of applied nutrition programmes and arranging for loans for poultry farming. He is assisted by a veterinary assistant surgeon.

### **CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT**

This department deals with the organisation, registration and supervision of various co-operative societies in the district and attends to administrative and statutory functions like supervision and control over the departmental staff and inspection of co-operative establishments.

At the district level the deputy registrar, co-operative societies, Pauri, is the regional head of the department. The assistant registrar, exercises supervision and control over the co-operative staff and institutions and also supervises all activities pertaining to co-operative undertakings. He is assisted by four co-operative inspectors.

### EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The district falls within the jurisdiction of the deputy director of education and the regional inspectress of girls' schools, both having their headquarters at Pauri. The regional inspectress of girls' school, Pauri region, is in overall charge of girls' education at the regional level and is assisted by a deputy inspectress of girls' school.

The district inspector of schools is responsible for the supervision, control and inspection of educational institutions up to the higher secondary level and he is assisted by an associate district inspector of schools. A post of Zila Basic Shiksha Adhikari was set up in the district in 1972 and this officer supervises all primary and junior high schools and nursery schools in the district and also controls the staff of these institutions. One of the main aims of the department other than imparting education, is the emphasizing of the need for building up a sound moral character and physique of the students. With this end in view games, physical education, training in scouting, the national discipline scheme, etc, have been added to the programmes of the educational institutions of the district.

### FOREST DEPARTMENT

The district is divided into three forest divisions—Pauri, Lansdowne and Kalagarh (with headquarters at Lansdowne). Pauri is the headquarters of a forest circle, under a conservator of forests. The Pauri division is in the charge of a divisional forest officer (with headquarters at Pauri). He is assisted by an assistant conservator of forests. One forest ranger and one deputy forest ranger are posted in each of the four ranges, the Pauri Nagdev range, the East Ameli range, the West Ameli range and the Diba range. These ranges are subdivided into 52 beats, which are under 13 foresters and 42 forest guards.

The Lansdowne forest division comes under the western circle, Naini Tal, the divisional headquarters being at Lansdowne. The officer in charge of the circle is the conservator of forests and that of the division is the divisional forest officer. There is a subdivision at LalChang under the charge of a subdivisional officer. There are five forest ranges—Gohari, Laldhang, Kotdwara, Kohtri and Lansdowne which are subdivided into 38 beats. The strength of the field staff is five range officers, five deputy rangers, 16 foresters and some other staff.

The Kotdwara plantation division comes under the Sivalik circle, Dehra Dun. The officer in charge of the circle is the conservator of forests and that at the division is the divisional forest officer.

### INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT

The district falls under the northern zone of the industries department, the zonal office being situated at Bareilly. The district industries officer looks after the industrial development of the district and provides technical guidance and assistance to the industrial units. He is assisted by an industrial inspector and two assistants.

The activities of the khadi and village industries are looked after by the khadi and village industries board, Kanpur. The staff posted in the district consists of a district village industries officer who supervises the work at the three centres, one each being located at Pauri, Srinagar and Kotdwara.

In addition there is a divisional superintendent of industries stationed at Pauri, who looks after the special schemes for hill areas such as wool cleaning, shawl weaving and the like. He maintains liaison with the big centre at Najibabad.

### IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT

The office of the superintending engineer of the investigation and planning circle, Garhwal, is under the Garhwal irrigation division (with headquarters at Lansdowne) which is under the chief engineer, irrigation department, U.P., with headquarters at Lucknow, at the State level. The jurisdiction of the superintending engineer of this division covers a part of the district. He is responsible for the utilization of water resources, irrigation through canals and other sources, planning and construction and maintenance of all irrigation works. He is assisted by four assistant engineers, a deputy revenue officer and six junior engineers.

Some part of the district falls under irrigation and planning division, Chamoli which is controlled by an executive engineer.

### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The district is covered by circle XXXVIII of the public works department with headquarters at Pipalkoti (district Chamoli) and circle XIV of the Moradabad, each under the charge of a superintending engineer. The temporary road survey division, Garhwal, is responsible for the surveying of new roads and drawing up estimates for making new roads. The departmental construction unit (building) Garhwal, is responsible for the construction of buildings and the provincial division, Garhwal, for the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges.

An executive engineer, of circle XIV, with headquarters at Lansdowne, is responsible for the construction and maintenance of roads, buildings and bridges already constructed in his jurisdiction. Each division is under the charge of an executive engineer who is assisted by a number of assistant engineers.

## CHAPTER XIV

### LOCAL SELF- GOVERNMENT

Being situated in the outer ranges of the Himalayas, the district of Garhwal remained till 1947, one of the most undeveloped districts of what was then the United Provinces. During the entire period of British rule hardly anything was done to develop in the people of the district a sense of local and civic responsibilities. In 1951, the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916, was applied in Dogadda and the town was upgraded from a notified area to a municipality for civic administration. The Act was extended to the towns of Pauri and Kotdwara in 1957 and to Srinagar in 1961. The Act, as amended from time to time, has gradually but systematically reduced the number of official and nominated members in the municipal boards and introduced important changes in their constitution, composition, powers and functions till their final abolition after the achievement of Independence in 1947. By an amendment made in the Act in 1949, communal representation in the municipal elections was abolished leaving only two categories of seats—general and for the Scheduled Castes—thus democratising the method of election. Universal adult franchise was introduced and the system of the nomination of members abolished. Another amendment in 1953 changed the nomenclature of 'chairman' of the board to 'president' and, on an experimental basis, provided for his direct election. Later the old method of indirect election was reintroduced, the municipal area being divided into wards which elected a number of members who in their turn elected the president. The term of office of the members and president is normally five years, which can be abridged or extended by the government in special cases. Members have power to remove the president through a vote of no confidence and to elect a new president. The main functions of the board are sanitation, construction and maintenance of public streets and drains, water-supply, lighting of streets and roads, supervision of educational institutions and upkeep of public health and medical services. The main sources of income are octroi on imports, tax on houses and lands, water tax, sale of refuse and compost, licence fees, revenue derived from municipal property and grants and contributions from government. The expenditure is mainly incurred on general administration, water-supply, public health and sanitation, maintenance of public streets and drains, education and lighting.

#### MUNICIPAL BOARDS

##### **Pauri**

This town was given the status of a notified area in 1949 but in 1957 it was upgraded to a municipality, under the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916. According to the census of 1971, the population was 8,878 and the area 41.41 sq. km. At the time of

the last municipal elections, held in 1971, the number of members elected through adult franchise (for a period of 5 years) was 15.

**Finance**—The income of the municipal board is mainly derived from sources like government grants and contributions, local rates and taxes including toll tax, octroi funds and fees imposed under special Acts, revenue from municipal property and license fees on vehicles and slaughter houses. This income is utilised after defraving the collection charges and incidental expenses mostly on street lighting, water-supply, public health and sanitation and education. The income of the board was Rs 3,13,018 and its expenditure Rs 3,07,651 in 1973-74.

**Water-supply**—The water-supply scheme of the municipal board was completed in 1967. In 1973-74 the length of pipe-lines laid in the town was 72 km. and there were 12 public and 485 private water connections. Water is supplied for only two hours daily. The total quantity of water supplied during 1973-74 was 2,58,200 l. and a sum of Rs 52,000 was spent on this account.

**Street Lighting**—Electricity was brought to the town in 1957. The board makes arrangements for the lighting of roads, streets and other public places in the town. In 1974-75, a sum of Rs 12,570 was spent by the board under this head.

**Public Health and Sanitation**—As the town does not have a sewage farm, the refuse and garbage is dumped by means of a truck in a trenching ground to prepare compost. In 1973-74 a sum of Rs 1,74,010 was spent on public health activities such as conservancy and sanitation.

**Special Achievements**—The municipal board has constructed a library-cum-reading room in its new building and another library, the Shraddhanand Arya Pustakalaya, is located in the upper bazaar. The board has a rest-house in the centre of the town.

The income and expenditure of the board from the year 1964-65 to 1973-74 are given in Statements I (a) and I (b) at the end of the chapter.

#### Dogadda

This town was brought under the operations of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Municipalities Act, 1900, as a notified area in 1944. In 1951 it was upgraded to a municipality under the U.P. Municipalities Act, 1916. According to the census of 1971, the population was 1,696 and the area 2.59 sq. km. At the time of the last municipal elections, 13 members were elected, through adult franchise for a period of 5 years.

**Finance**—The income of the board was Rs 1,61,045 and expenditure Rs 1,32,927 in 1973-74.

**Water-supply**—The water-supply of the town is yet to be completed, the total number of tube-wells being 10. The place being located between two rivers, the water-supply is expected to

be better than in other places of this area but no scheme for the procurement of water from other places has been drawn up.

**Street Lighting**—Electricity was made available to the municipal area in 1957. The board makes arrangement for the lighting of roads, streets and other public places in the town. There were 56 electric street lamps in the town in 1973-74.

**Public Health and Sanitation**—The board looks after the sanitation of the town including the sweeping of the roads, cleaning of drains, etc., and removal of garbage within the municipal limits. A sum of Rs 5,121 was spent on public health in 1973-74.

The income and expenditure of the board from the year 1964-65 to 1973-74 are given in Statements II (a) and II (b) at the end of the chapter.

### Kotdwarā

This town was given the status of a municipality in 1957 under the U.P. Municipalities Act, 1916. According to the census of 1971, the population was 11,457 and the area 2.59 sq. km. At the time of the last municipal elections, 15 members were elected through adult franchise for a period of 5 years.

**Finance**—The income of the board was Rs 7,65,195 and expenditure Rs 8,51,055 in 1973-74.

**Water-supply**—The waterworks has been transferred to the Garhwal Jal Sansthan, a sum of Rs 1,25,715 being spent on this account in 1974-75.

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**Street Lighting**—The town was electrified in 1957. The board has installed electric street lamps for lighting the roads and streets. The expenditure incurred on this account during the year 1973-74 was Rs 22,317.

### Public Health and Sanitation

The board looks after the sanitation of the town including the sweeping of the roads, cleaning of drains etc., and removal of garbage within the municipal limits. A sum of Rs 1,82,795 was spent on public health activities in 1973-74.

The income and expenditure of the board from 1964-65 to 1973-74 are given in Statements III (a) and III (b) at the end of the chapter.

### Srinagar

This town was brought under the operation of the Bengal Chowkidari Act, 1856, in 1891. In 1961 it was upgraded as a

municipality under the U.P. Municipalities Act, 1916. According to the census of 1971, the population was 5,566 and the area 7.77 sq. km.

At the time of the municipal elections of 1971, ten members were elected through adult franchise for a period of five years.

**Finance**—The income of the board was Rs 303,329 and its expenditure Rs 2,89,398 in 1974-75.

**Water-supply**—The water-supply scheme was completed in 1970-71 and the town is served with a network of pipes for the supply of water for which the board spent Rs 26,000 in 1972-73.

The town is electrified and efforts are being made to extend this facility to Harijan sectors and other backward areas.

**Public Health and Sanitation**—The board looks after the sanitation of the town including the sweeping of the roads, cleaning of drains etc., and removal of garbage within the municipal limits. A sum of Rs 5,39,920 being spent on public health activities in 1973-74.

The income and expenditure of the board from 1963-64 to 1972-73 are given in Statements IV (a) and IV (b) at the end of the chapter.

#### TOWN AREAS

##### Rudraprayag

This town was brought under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914, in 1968. It covered an area of 1.67 sq. km. and the population was 1,181, according to the census of 1971.

It was electrified in 1968. In 1973-74 a sum of Rs 8,000 was spent on street lighting and Rs 22,067 on public health activities.

The income and expenditure of the committee from 1971-72 to 1973-74 are given in Statement V at the end of the chapter.

##### Bah Bazar

The position of Bah Bazar is peculiar as for purposes of administration it is part of the Deoprayag notified area or the adjoining district of Tehri Garhwal, which is on the other side of the river Alaknanda. According to the census of 1971 the town had an area of 1.30 sq. km. and a population of 580.

The income and expenditure of the committee from 1964-65 to 1973-74 are given in Statement VI at the end of the chapter.

#### PANCHAYAT RAJ

In ancient times the village panchayat, which was a body of elders, had substantial administrative and judicial powers and exercised full control over the villages. During British times these panchayats lost their powers due to the establishment of a large number of law courts in the urban areas to which the villagers had to bring their litigation but managed to survive and to

control the social life of the village community. The U.P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, was passed after Independence. It reorganised the ancient system on the democratic pattern of the elections of the members of the *gaon* panchayats and delegated to these bodies adequate powers for the administration of the villages. The members of the *nyaya* panchayats are nominated by the district magistrate, on the basis of qualifications, from among the *panchayats* elected to the *gaon* panchayat who then elect a *sarpanch*, and a *sahayak sarpanch* from amongst themselves. The *sarpanch* as the name denotes, is the chairman of the *nyaya* panchayat. Cases are heard by benches of three to five *panchayats* each. The term of office of these benches is one year.

The community development blocks, which were established in 1952 with the launching of the planning and development programme, had block development committees but they were only advisory bodies, set up to help and advise the staff posted in the blocks for successful implementation of the Five-year Plan schemes. The government reorganized the local self-governing system at the rural and district level and enacted the U.P. Antarim Zila Parishad Act, 1958, under which the Antarim Zila Parishads were established in 1958 replacing the old district boards which had been set up during the British period under the U.P. District Boards Act, 1922.

Subsequently, by the U. P. Kshetra Samiti and Zila Parishad Adhiniyam, 1961, these committees were given statutory recognition and wider executive and financial powers. This Act introduced the three-tier rural civic organization with the *gaon* panchayats at the base, the Kshetra Samitis in the middle and the Zila Parishad at the apex.

### Zila Parishad

A district board was functioning in the district in 1910 which had 15 members with the deputy commissioner as chairman and the subdivisional officer at Pauri as secretary, five members having ex officio status and the remaining ten being nominated by government. The chief functions of the district board were the care of education, health and communications. In 1922 the United Provinces District Board Act was passed under which was established a district board on June 16, 1923. It had 21 elected and two nominated members. In 1948 the number of elected members was increased to 42 (elected from 21 constituencies) and four members (co-opted by the board). This Act, with a number of amendments made from time to time, governed the working of the district board. The district board was dissolved on April 29, 1958, and an interim body, known as the Antarim Zila Parishad came into being. The district magistrate became the *Adhyaksha* (president) and all the district-level officers became its members. This arrangement continued till the present Zila Parishad was formed on June 30, 1963, under the Kshetra Samitis and Zila Parishad Adhiniyam, 1961.

The Zila Parishad consists of 52 members. The term of the members and the *Adhyaksha* is five years which may be extended

by the State government in special circumstances. Pending a review of the constitution and functions of the Zila Parishad, the U.P. Kshetra Samitis and Zila Parishad (Alpkalik Vyvastha Adhyadesha), 1970, was promulgated on March 23, 1970 under which the powers and functions of the Zila Parishad were vested in the district magistrate initially for a period of two years which was extended up to 1974.

The functions of the Zila Parishad include construction and maintenance of roads, bridges and ferries, utilization of funds allotted by the government for purposes of agriculture, animal husbandry, irrigation, co-operatives, village industries, education and the welfare of children, youth and women. They also include co-ordination of the activities of Vikas-Khanda (development blocks) and the implementation of inter-block schemes.

The major sources of income of the Zila Parishad are government grants and taxes. The income is mostly spent on general administration, medical and public health, public works and fairs etc.

**Education**—Institutions up to the senior Basic stage (junior high school) were under the control of the Zila Parishad till June 25, 1972, when they were taken over by the State government. The junior Basic schools (for both boys and girls) maintained by the Zila Parishad numbered 914 and the senior Basic schools 89. The number of teachers (men and women) was 2,378.

**Medical and Public Health**—There were two allopathic dispensaries, the number of patients treated in which was, 2,342. There are 18 vaccinators and an assistant superintendent of vaccination, the expenditure incurred on public health in 1973-74 amounting to Rs 33,437.

**Public Works**—The Parishad constructed 1,128 km. of unmetalled roads in that year.

The statement below shows the major heads of receipts and expenditure of the Parishad in 1973-74 :

Receipts	Amount (in Rs)	Heads of expenditure	Amount (in Rs)
Government grants	21,18,677	General administration	14,322
Mill rent	7,822	Collection of taxes	22,495
Circumstance and property tax	1,00,110	Cattle pounds	4,263
Fees (school)	3,340	Education	69,413
Medical services	34	Medical services	12,625
Shops and markets	9,723	Public health	44,777
Income and property	52,904	Exhibitions	2,600
Miscellaneous	1,24,548	Veterinary hospital	9,495
Cattle pounds	3,515	Public works	1,83,781
		Roads and buildings	32,58,394
		Pensions and gratuity	1,192
		Miscellaneous	44,805
		Others	57,538
Total	24,20,678	Total	37,15,698

The income and expenditure of the Zila Parishad from the year 1964-65 to 1973-74 are given in Statements VII (a) and VII (b) at the end of the chapter.

### Kshettra Samitis

The community development blocks established in the fifties for successful and speedy implementation of the Five-year Plan schemes, had block advisory committees to help and advise the staff posted in the blocks. The membership of a Kshettra Samiti consists of all the *pradhans* of the *gaon sabhas*, the chairmen of the town areas and notified area committees within the block, five representatives of the co-operative societies of the block and all members of the Central and State legislatures representing or residing in any part of the block. The Samiti also co-opts persons interested in planning and development work, representatives of women and persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes. The Kshettra Samiti is headed by a *pramukh* and two up-*pramukhs* elected by the members. The normal tenure of the *Samiti* is five years which may be shortened or extended by the government in special circumstances. Every Kshettra Samiti constitutes three sub-committees called Karya Karini(executive),Utpadan (production) and Kalyan (welfare) Samitis headed by the *pramukh* and the senior and the junior *pramukhs* respectively. Since 1964, the services of the officers and others employed in the development blocks have been placed at the disposal of the Kshettra Samiti. The block development officer functions as the executive officer of the Samiti and is responsible for the implementation of the plans and programmes of the *gaon sabhas* relating to agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, minor irrigation works, public health, maternity and child welfare centres, prevention and control of epidemics, promotion of village and cottage industries and co-operative institutions. The Samiti acts as a co-ordination agency for the *gaon sabhas* functioning within their jurisdiction in the implementation of schemes and programmes. On the basis of the elections to the village panchayats held in 1973-74, the fourteen Kshettra Samitis were reconstituted, electing 1,450 members. The number of all the *gaon sabhas* and *nyaya* panchayats in each of the 14 blocks is given in chapter IX and the constitution and functions of the latter in chapter XII.

### Gaon Panchayat

The U.P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, brought four institutions into existence in each village, the *gaon sabha* (legislature wing), the *gaon* panchayat (executive wing) the *nyaya* panchayat (judicial arm) and the *bhumi prabhandhak samiti* land management committee).

A *gaon sabha* consists of all adults ordinarily resident within the jurisdiction of a *sabha*, with a minimum population of 250 persons. It passes its own budget and is responsible for construction

repairs, maintenance of birth and death registers, provision for water-supply, prevention of epidemics, regulation of markets and the welfare of children, youth and women.

In 1971, there were 1,137 *gaon sabhas* in the district. The *pradhan* (president) and the *up-pradhan* (vice president) are elected by the members of the *gaon panchayat* from amongst themselves, each for a term of 5 years. They are also ex-officio *pradhans* and *up-pradhans* of the *gaon panchayats* who have a right to take part in the proceedings of the panchayat. The *pradhan* is not deemed to be a member of the *gaon panchayat* and is not entitled to vote except in case of a tie, when he has the casting vote.

The functions of the *gaon panchayat* include the construction, repairs, cleaning and lighting of streets, improvement of sanitation and prevention of epidemics, maintenance of buildings, land or other a property belonging to the *sabha*, registration of births and deaths, regulation of markets and fairs, provision for drinking water and the welfare of women and children.

For the carrying out of these objectives, the *gaon panchayats* largely depend on voluntary contributions and to some extent on government grants.

They have powers to levy taxes, rates and fees to augment their resources for fulfilling their role of effective instruments of social change and rural reconstruction at the village level.

Some of the main achievements of the *gaon panchayat* of the district during the First, Second and Third Five-year Plan periods are mentioned below :

Items of construction	First Five-year Plan	Second Five-year Plan	Third Five-year Plan
Irrigation channels (km.)	320	338	350
Irrigation tanks (no.)	136	150	186
Inter-village roads (km.)	400	300	386
Drinking water diggies (no.)	300	350	200
Panchayat ghars (no.)	2	2	—

**STATEMENT I (a)**  
**Receipts (in rupees), Nagar Palika, Pauri**

Reference Page No. 163

Year	Revenue		Grants and contributions from municipal property, etc., other than taxes	Miscellane- ous	Other sources	Total receipts	
	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	derived	5	6	7	8
1	2	3	4				
1964-65	15,878	40,936	9,052	63,112	2,460	13,230	144,662
1965-66	16,752	35,177	8,036	4,46,021	1,185	13,277	52,0448
1966-67	15,174	29,642	9,900	2,84,866	2,624	22,728	3,64,934
1967-68	13,911	39,767	6,996	59,581	1,865	24,725	1,45,845
1968-69	10,746	1,24,406	7,617	41,225	1,675	19,535	2,05,198
1969-70	10,406	1,33,337	8,500	2,06,089	6,501	21,853	3,86,686
1970-71	19,901	1,33,091	10,120	60,038	5,463	17,500	2,46,113
1971-72	13,080	1,36,332	7,080	1,16,386	10,450	62,582	3,45,910
1972-73	22,977	1,45,211	10,267	98,924	10,606	14,651	3,02,636
1973-74	30,755	1,61,808	9,880	49,900	10,360	50,315	3,13,018

**STATEMENT 1 (b)**  
**Expenditure (in rupees) Nagar Palika, Pauri**

Reference Page No. 163

Year	General administration		Public health and sanitation	Education	Contributions	Miscellane-ous	Other sources	Total expenditure
	and collection	charges						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1964-65	16,188	6,753	17,549	35,150	300	9,348	20,228	1,05,717
1965-66	16,708	4,196	4,26,027	40,069	5,900	10,948	17,926	5,21,786
1966-67	20,272	11,069	2,80,337	36,859	435	14,561	64,778	4,98,952
1967-68	20,861	7,622	70,946	34,488	—	13,827	6,586	1,54,318
1968-69	23,847	9,221	51,956	42,716	3,160	20,868	3,048	1,54,56
1969-70	26,411	7,595	2,99,849	44,043	7,116	10,386	8,429	4,03,329
1970-71	24,861	11,297	1,19,043	42,343	—	15,846	8,648	2,21,996
1971-72	28,044	16,107	1,23,098	38,749	817	3,164	26,012	2,55,991
1972-73	35,219	23,267	1,64,220	37,285	631	17,789	12,084	2,90,514
1973-74	56,889	14,153	1,74,010	662	2,360	44,412	15,485	3,07,951

**STATEMENT II (a)**  
**Receipts (in rupees) Nagar Palika, Dogadda**

Reference Page No. 164

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue				Other sources	Total receipts
			derived from munici- pal pro- perty, etc., other than taxes	Grants and contributions	Miscella- neous	—		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1964-65	4,53,228	480	6,229	1,615	873	—	550	4,62,975
1965-66	48,460	3,358	8,421	4,000	228	—	1,033	65,500
1966-67	35,967	461	11,735	5,747	228	—	375	54,513
1967-68	57,867	429	8,738	1,016	228	—	435	68,713
1968-69	47,719	2,273	32,632	—	—	—	177	82,801
1969-70	83,628	504	7,554	2,639	26,385	—	11,063	1,31,773
1970-71	1,46,568	1,239	222	2,804	10,137	—	6,811	1,67,781
1971-72	1,20,026	1,176	836	2,009	12,000	—	64,439	2,00,488
1972-73	1,26,794	534	2,127	2,853	1,230	—	265	1,33,368
1973-74	1,26,932	991	19,478	—	3,683	—	9,501	1,61,945

**STATEMENT II (b)**  
**Expenditure (in rupees) Nagar Palika, Dogadda**

Reference Page No. 164

Year and collection charges	Administration	Public safety	Public health and	Contributions	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total expenditure	9
								8
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1964-65	25,068	3,836	2,854	9,321	10,232	653	10,975	62,959
1965-66	14,425	47,086	12,420	20,273	1,371	9,107	1,811	1,06,493
1966-67	13,090	7,070	13,035	11,457	4,285	7,905	2,244	59,086
1967-68	15,031	8,514	17,054	13,065	126	2,318	1,650	57,757
1968-69	10,711	15,589	14,619	9,784	2,012	2,172	496	55,374
1969-70	22,647	13,843	19,951	15,089	28,709	2,529	1,787	99,555
1970-71	24,243	13,409	21,391	14,438	9,243	8,623	5,296	96,643
1971-72	24,578	16,450	23,816	16,518	13,460	9,390	1,156	1,05,378
1972-73	48,528	11,652	34,031	11,702	570	10,811	3,114	1,20,417
1973-74	68,679	3,220	5,121	942	25,551	9,595	19,619	1,32,727

STATEMENT III (a)  
Receipts (in rupees) Nagar Palika, Koiduvara

Reference Page No. 164

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue					Total receipts
			derived from mu- nicipal pro- perty, etc., other than taxes	from mu- nicipal pro- perty, etc., other than taxes	Grants and contributions	Misella- neous	Other sources	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1964-65	1,71,017	2,838	42,862	58,878	1,353	\$,00,620	5,77,568	
1965-66	1,87,808	1,801	55,602	90,454	1,657	7,00,620	10,37,942	
1966-67	1,81,010	1,982	48,009	1,11,401	8,517	2,85,520	6,36,428	
1967-68	1,83,466	1,518	67,391	83,354	3,589	1,56,414	4,95,732	
1968-69	1,86,917	1,118	88,972	1,27,861	4,308	1,38,000	5,44,976	
1969-70	2,03,622	1,287	1,09,138	1,79,242	5,724	1,50,000	6,49,018	
1970-71	2,21,186	1,019	1,35,002	1,86,213	4,928	1,52,326	7,00,754	
1971-72	2,75,211	1,935	2,01,610	1,77,803	14,541	1,70,212	8,41,112	
1972-73	2,69,900	1,575	2,37,189	2,41,252	58,515	34,646	8,43,086	
1973-74	3,58,540	856	2,39,564	1,08,058	29,334	28,882	7,65,198	

**STATEMENT III (b)**  
**Expenditure (in rupees), Nagar Patika, Kotdwara**

Reference Page No. 164

Year	General administration and collection charges	Public safety	Public health and sanitation	Contributions	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total expenditure	0
								1
1964-65	53,099	13,536	4,06,830	43,188	2,045	27,990	2,188	5,48,876
1965-66	62,438	15,492	8,16,495	87,159	8,900	25,239	673	10,26,396
1966-67	69,221	21,839	3,98,326	1,33,542	372	26,770	881	6,50,960
1967-68	74,799	14,713	2,98,483	94,058	834	22,334	62	5,05,283
1968-69	75,202	29,366	3,11,685	79,727	—	31,534	13	5,27,527
1969-70	89,889	19,313	3,88,432	1,02,731	1,637	27,820	—	6,29,802
1970-71	95,148	4,731	4,35,370	1,14,471	719	30,148	—	6,80,587
1971-72	1,07,769	24,476	2,75,236	1,59,478	5,600	40,091	2,655	6,15,305
1972-73	1,36,955	28,773	4,58,896	2,14,613	1,500	29,304	29,759	8,725,800
1973-74	1,32,687	25,306	5,39,920	83,290	1,961	33,343	34,566	8,51,055

**STATEMENT IV (a)**  
**Receipts (in rupees) Nagar Palika, Srinagar**

Reference Page No. 165

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation under special Acts	Revenue derived				Other sources	Total receipts
			from Muni- cipal pro- perty, etc., other than taxes	Grants and contributions	Miscella- neous			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1963-64	36,471	—	3,856	6,015	3,212	—	—	55,148
1964-65	45,105	—	3,065	6,558	2,821	2,582	60,131	
1965-66	55,596	—	2,686	6,906	2,232	2,000	69,420	
1966-67	59,829	—	5,308	22,597	4,881	9,565	1,02,380	
1967-68	56,297	—	8,118	1,372	4,594	6,303	76,684	
1968-69	77,730	—	6,158	10,458	1,637	—	95,875	
1969-70	78,285	1,695	6,776	59,953	2,741	1,692	1,51,142	
1970-71	78,917	1,493	9,995	8,766	4,575	6,110	1,09,356	
1971-72	72,615	1,382	5,133	54,244	4,285	3,328	1,40,987	
1972-73	1,52,487	987	7,618	52,827	20,145	2,474	2,36,439	

## STATEMENT IV (b)

## Expenditure (in rupees), Nagar Palika, Srinagar

Reference Page No. 167

Year	General administration	Public safety	Public health and sanitation	Education	Contribution	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1963-64	77,507	—	50,969	17,373	—	—	3,646
1964-65	10,537	—	6,738	24,056	—	—	1,964
1965-66	—	12,677	7,431	24,893	—	—	8,300
1966-67	15,049	—	12,893	42,232	—	—	15,095
1967-68	15,350	—	17,209	63,719	—	—	17,398
1968-69	16,406	—	13,679	26,402	—	—	6,222
1969-70	15,263	—	14,554	30,031	4,106	6,250	10,715
1970-71	21,748	—	24,886	61,677	5,657	—	13,218
1971-72	27,698	—	64,871	75,519	8,259	137	17,501
1972-73	46,247	—	56,879	77,595	8,287	3,405	11,258

## STATEMENT V

## Receipts and Expenditure Town Area, Rudraprayag

Reference Page No. 165

Year	Government grants	Other sources	Total receipts	General administration and collection	Medical and public works	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1971-72	21,590	10,555	32,145	3,566	—	3,350	7,959
1972-73	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	N. A.	14,875
1973-74	38,562	59,454	97,026	19,970	13,896	44,869	—

**STATEMENT VI**  
**Receipts and Expenditure, Town Area, Bah Bazar**

Reference Page No. 165

Year	Receipt (in rupees)			Expenditure (in rupees)				
	Govern- ment grants	Other sources	Total receipts	General administra- tion and collection charges	Medical and public health	Public works	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1964-65	16,427	86,362	82,789	17,858	19,159	18,000	39,109	94,126
1965-66	34,743	1,19,051	1,53,794	29,536	19,708	21,896	79,989	1,51,129
1966-67	16,471	89,136	1,05,607	55,560	24,729	26,137	19,429	1,25,855
1967-68	74,496	78,479	1,52,975	31,295	24,470	38,655	9,654	1,04,074
1968-69	40,656	1,02,665	1,43,323	69,851	25,088	36,785	19,934	1,51,658
1969-70	18,257	1,10,421	1,28,678	41,169	29,139	47,250	26,365	1,43,923
1970-71	19,140	99,446	1,18,586	12,718	34,482	40,237	23,159	1,10,596
1971-72	19,320	1,09,366	1,28,696	25,203	43,824	49,927	25,233	1,44,187
1972-73	41,986	1,14,088	1,58,024	37,077	43,123	60,711	18,816	1,64,727
1973-74	59268	1,35,237	1,94,505	14,302	50,555	50,596	18,221	1,51,874

**STATEMENT VII (a)**  
**Receipts (in rupees) Zila Parishad, Pauri**

Reference Page No. 168

Year	Govern- ment grants	Education including industrial and technical	Medical and public health	Cattle pounds	Other sources	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1964-65	19,79,834	1,52,081	Nil	5,699	1,40,137	22,77,751
1965-66	25,18,677	60,846	"	4,115	1,97,347	27,80,985
1966-67	27,40,241	1,74,904	"	3,263	1,63,743	30,82,151
1967-68	29,98,228	47,482	"	5,512	2,50,617	33,01,839
1968-69	31,77,554	42,511	"	8,032	1,58,711	33,86,808
1969-70	41,60,025	37,833	"	9,150	3,04,045	45,11,053
1970-71	41,33,089	1,03,210	"	8,923	2,04,820	44,50,042
1971-72	77,11,325	76,288	288	7,440	4,39,403	82,34,684
1972-73	37,75,333	36,253	213	4,581	4,24,026	42,40,406
1973-74	21,18,953	3,340	34	3,516	2,74,414	24,00,257

**STATEMENT VII (b)**  
**Expenditure (in rupees) Zila Parishad, Pauri**

Reference Page No. 168

Year	General administration and collection charges	Education including industrial and technical		Medical and public health		Public works	Fair and exhibitions	Other seads	Total expenditure
		1	2	3	4				
1964-65	76,502	19,55,133	55,459	1,87,674	462	2,10,507	24,85,737		
1965-66	76,879	24,81,752	52,342	2,19,476	5,000	57,833	28,93,284		
1966-67	81,465	27,24,912	54,707	1,87,331	500	1,70,655	32,19,570		
1967-68	80,202	27,29,589	28,899	1,82,797	500	1,03,654	31,25,641		
1968-69	1,04,937	29,27,636	60,731	2,24,097	391	38,871	33,56,663		
1969-70	99,951	35,18,048	64,168	2,63,236	1,600	66,215	40,13,218		
1970-71	70,791	35,27,844	52,705	1,47,771	500	50,233	38,49,844		
1971-72	75,578	37,63,253	59,372	5,07,004	500	66,618	44,72,330		
1972-73	87,610	27,74,082	59,027	28,51,613	1,000	114,393	58,88,228		
1973-74	1,69,987	69,412	66,898	34,42,175	2,600	1,93,631	38,74,683		

## CHAPTER XV

### EDUCATION AND CULTURE

The Garhwal region, which formed a part of the tract known as *Kedar khanda*, has been a celebrated place since Vedic times and remained a stronghold of Hindu culture, religion and Sanskrit learning for centuries.<sup>1</sup> According to local tradition, the *ashramas* (hermitages) of the sages Vyās, Kānva, Ashtavakra and others functioned as renowned educational centres in this region.

A general survey of the educational system in ancient days reveals that education was then regarded as the most essential factor conducive to a healthy community life. Such was the stress laid on its importance that the wise and the learned were supposed to be befriended by the gods.<sup>2</sup> Education was accessible to all and no fees were charged, the pupils paying in kind or by rendering various services as desired by their gurus. They began their education at home at the age of five or so, with the ceremony of *Vidyārambha*.<sup>3</sup> Those deemed fit for higher education were sent, after the initiation ceremony known as *Upanayana* (going near the teacher) to the residential hermitage, the *gurukula* of the teacher.<sup>4</sup> The pupil was allowed to pursue the study of the subjects of his choice.<sup>5</sup> The subjects were the *Vedas*, philology, logic, philosophy, *Dharmashastra*, etc. The study of Vedic hymns was necessary for their religious duties. A pupil was given a good grounding in grammar (in order to develop the faculty for understanding advanced works written in Sanskrit), etymology, poetic metres, mathematics and some astronomy.<sup>6</sup> The development of the individual was the main concern of the gurus and the building of his character by the acquisition of learning and piety was the chief aim of education. The compulsory residence of the pupil in the *ashrama* of the teacher was expected to inculcate in him the sense of devoted and selfless service, a spirit of austerity, an attitude of obedience and an awareness of the dignity of conduct and labour.<sup>7</sup> The seekers after eternal truth and supreme knowledge also joined these *ashramas* (hermitages)<sup>8</sup> of the great rishis who performed religious rites, and practised austerities in the pursuit of learning. These *ashramas* were situated in the sight of the lofty snow-capped peaks, in the solitudes of forests, surrounded by beautiful natural scenery and were suitable for mystic devotion.

The education imparted was not merely theoretical but dealt with the practical realities of a householder's life such as

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1. Datar, B. N. : *Himalayan Pilgrimage* p. 28
2. Altekar, A. S. : *Education in Ancient India*, p. 280
3. Mookerji, R. K. : *Ancient Indian Education*, p. 173
4. *Ibid.*, p. 174
5. Altekar, A. S., *op. cit.*, p. 264
6. *Ibid.*, pp. 91-92
7. *Ibid.*, pp. 264-85
8. Mookerji, R. K. *op. cit.*, p. 110

**training in animal husbandry, agriculture, etc<sup>1</sup>.** There was arrangement for secular and vocational training for the masses.<sup>2</sup> Children were trained in their family's traditional profession within the family itself. Training in fine arts and crafts was given through apprenticeship by the artisans in their homes.<sup>3</sup> The collective interests of a particular craft were watched and administered by an organisation called the Sreni.<sup>4</sup>

#### Temples

Buddhist monasteries also imparted education. During his visit to this region in the 7th century (which he has described as the Po-lo-hih-no-pu-la country). Huien Tsang came across some of these monasteries.<sup>5</sup> Education in these institutions gave training in collective and social life and inculcated a spirit of brotherhood.<sup>6</sup>

By mediaeval times these *gurukulas* or *ashramas* had degenerated into *pathshalas* attached usually to and owned and run by big temples. The subjects taught were reading, writing, a little arithmetic and religious myths and legends.<sup>7</sup> In some indigenous Institutions Sanskrit grammar and literature, astrology, astronomy, Tantrashastra and Ayurveda were taught and training imparted in priesthood.<sup>8</sup>

Education in this region received a set back on its occupation by the Gurkhas between the close of the 18th and the beginning of the 19th century.

At the advent of the British in 1816, a few indigenous institutions still existed. In the commercial type of schools run for the children of the business community, writing of accounts maintaining of bills and drafts, book-keeping and mental arithmetic were taught.<sup>9</sup> From the very beginning the British adopted an entirely different policy in this State, where regional languages were made the medium of education, unlike in other parts of India where English was made the medium of instruction.<sup>10</sup> According to the principle laid down in Wood Despatch of 1854, an education department was established in the state and this region came under the inspectorate of the Kumaon circle. The statistics that follow pertain to the then joint districts of Garhwal and Tehri, the latter area being ruled by a raja. In 1896-97 there was 95 schools and colleges with 3,701 boys and 96 girls on roll, 4 institutions of secondary education with 209 boys and 96 girls and 91 primary institutions with 3,492 boys on roll. These numbers went up to

1. Rawat, P. L. : *History of Indian Education*, p. 56

2. Mookerji, R. K., *op. cit.*, p. 55

3. Altekar, *op. cit.*, p. 23

4. Rawat, *op. cit.*, p. 57

5. Watters, T. : *On Yuan Chwang's Travels in India*, Vol. I, p. 329; Vol. II, p. 338

6. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D. : *History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. III, p. 591

7. Rice, L. : *Appendix to the Report of Indian Education Commission of 1882*, p. 78

8. Raturi, H. K. : *Garhwal ka Itihas*, p. 221

9. Hunter, W. W. : *Report of the Indian Education Commission of 1882*, p. 73

10. Richey, J. A. : *Selection from Educational Records*. Part I, pp. 228-29

204 (with 6,760 boys and 311 girls) 8 (with 586 boys and 65 girls) and 196 (with 6,174 boys and 246 girls) respectively in 1902-03 girls also having starter going to primary schools in which there were 17 on roll. Christian missionary bodies also furthered the cause of education in this region. The first high school was established at Chopra by the American mission which received a grant-in-aid from the district board. In 1909, the anglo-vernacular school of Srinagar became a high school. In 1910-11 there were eight secondary schools with 534 boys and 78 girls. The number of primary schools was 181 with 5,998 boys and 248 girls on roll. Though within a year the number of secondary schools was reduced to 5 with 215 boys and no girl. The number of primary schools also decreased to 175 though the number of boys increased to 6,036, the girls on roll being 120. The number of secondary schools came up to 12 in 1929-30 with 801 boys and 381 primary schools with 15,917 boys and 248 girls. After Independence an impetus was given to the spread of education which was accelerated when the present district was formed in 1960.

### Female Education

In ancient times facilities for female education were provided as their participation was indispensable in ceremonies and rituals. The syllabus included the study of Vedic hymns which were necessary for prayers and sacrifices. Music and dancing also formed part of the course of their training.<sup>1</sup> With the passage of time only the girls of well-to-do families acquired a literary education but every girl learnt the domestic and culinary arts, fine arts and religious lore.<sup>2</sup> The imparting of a literary education to girls declined gradually and by the close of the 18th century, on the whole women had become illiterate and formed the nucleus of a purely domestic life. They learnt cooking, house-keeping, sewing and other domestic acquirements, etc., at home from the women of the family and through practical experience.

### GROWTH OF LITERACY

According to the census figures of 1901, the proportion of literate persons to the total population in this region was 639 per 10,000, being next only to Dehra Dun. Counting only the male population, Garhwal region stood first. The number of educational establishments doubled and the attendance trebled in the following decade. The emphasis on education developed because agriculture could not provide full support for living in the district and therefore recourse to education for purposes of service or other pursuits had to be taken.

In 1911 the percentage of literacy among males and females was 14.3 and 0.3 respectively. In 1921 literacy among males fell to 12.4 but in the case of females it rose to 0.4. In the next

1. Mookerji, *op. cit.*, p. 105

2. Rawat, *op. cit.*, p. 42

decade the figures of 1931 reveal that the percentage of literate males was 14.5 and that of females 0.4. The percentage of literacy among both males and females in 1951 was 33.9 and 2.4 respectively.

The present district of Garhwal came into existence in 1960 and, according to the census of 1961, the percentage of literacy in respect of the total population was 23.0 (43.0 for males and 6.0 for females) against the State average of 17.7. The district ranked 8th in literacy in the whole of the State. In the urban areas the percentage of literacy was 68.7 for males and 34.1 for females against 41.2 for males and 5.1 for females in the rural. About 67.0 per cent of the total literates were without any educational standard.

In 1971, this percentage rose to 49.32 for males and 16.52 for females. The increase of 10 per cent in a decade in female education, with only 6 per cent for males, indicates the favourable attitude of the people of Garhwal towards female education.

The following statement specifies the educational standards of the literate population in 1961 :

Educational standard	No. of persons	Males	Females
<b>Urban</b>			
Literate without educational level	6,341	4,524	1,817
Primary or junior Basic	6,274	5,268	1,006
Matriculation or higher secondary	2,477	2,219	258
Technical diploma not equal to degree	20	18	2
University degree or post-graduate degree other than technical degree	347	318	29
Technical degree or diploma equal to degree or post-graduate degree	49	21	28
Engineering	4	4	—
Medicine	7	5	2
Veterinary and dairying	1	1	—
Agriculture	3	3	—
Teaching	34	8	26
<b>Rural</b>			
Literate without educational level	69,171	58,861	10,810
Primary or junior Basic	24,429	22,205	2,224
Matriculation and above	3,341	3,245	96

#### GENERAL EDUCATION

General education in the district now starts at the pre-junior Basic or nursery stage and continues up to the university stage, the university of Garhwal at Srinagar having been set up in 1973.

The following statement gives the number of students in various categories of schools in the district in 1974-75 :

Category of institution	Number of institution	Number of students	
		Boys	Girls
Junior Basic	968	54,713	38,103
Senior Basic	70	3,929	1,413
Higher secondary	81	28,000	4,000
Degree colleges	4	1,024	252

The figures of above schools and students from 1965-66 to 1974-75 are given in Statements III and IV, at the end of the chapter.

### Pre-junior Basic Stage

Pre-junior Basic education is imparted to children between two and a half to six years of age of the institutions of this type is the Model Montesori school, Kotwara, with an enrolment of 115.

### Junior and Senior Basic Stage

Junior and senior Basic education in this district, as in other parts of the State is based on the Wardha scheme initiated by Mahatma Gandhi in 1937, which was adopted by the State government with certain modifications and comprises the junior Basic stage from class I to V and the senior Basic stage from class VI to VIII. Mahatma Gandhi held that education develop and in the best possible way the pupil's body, mind and spirit. The scheme envisaged free and compulsory education given for a term of eight years by the State with the mother-tongue as the medium of instruction and the educational process centering round some useful handicraft so as to channelise the child's creative ability from the time his training began. Every school was to be self-supporting.

In order to ensure academic and administrative efficiency and to prevent the evils of mismanagement, Basic education has been provincialised with effect from July 25, 1972, and the control of Basic schools has been transferred from the local bodies to the board of Basic education headed by a director at the State level. He is assisted at the district level by the Zila Shiksha Samiti. In 1974-75 the number of junior Basic schools was 821 for boys with 54,713 boys and 147 for girls with 38,103 girls on roll and the number of senior Basic schools was 44 for boys with 3,929 boys and 26 for girls with 1,413 girls on roll. The schools for boys had 2,440 teachers and the girls' 483. In that year the expenditure on education was Rs 82,04,806.

## Secondary Education

Secondary education now covers education after the junior Basic stage, from classes VI to XII. With the establishment of the board of high school and intermediate education, U. P. in 1921 the high school and intermediate examinations began to be held at the end of classes X and XII respectively. To encourage female education, the State Government abolished tuition fees for girls up to the high school stage from January 1, 1965. Education for boys has been made free up to class VI.

In 1975 the district had 76 higher secondary schools for boys and 5 for girls with an enrolment of 28,000 pupils, 4,000 being girls. Except the few run by the government, these institutions are managed privately with grants-in-aid from the government. A few details regarding these institutions are given in Statements I and II at the end of the chapter.

## Re-orientation Scheme

Under this scheme agriculture was introduced as a central craft in as many junior high schools and higher secondary schools as could procure 4.04 ha. arable land for practical training in farming. The following schools had agriculture as a compulsory subject in 1974-75 in the district :

Type of institutions	Number of pupils	Total area in ha.
High school	21	42.5
Intermediate college	14	40.4

## Higher Education

...

The University of Garhwal, Srinagar, came into being on December 1, 1973. It is designed to meet the aspirations of the people of the region and to help the economic, industrial, social and cultural development of the region which comprises the districts of Garhwal, Tehri Garhwal, Chamoli, Uttarkashi and Dehra Dun. It took up the work of the affiliation of the colleges in its jurisdiction and the examination work of 1975-76. The number of affiliated colleges was 16 in 1975-76 with a total enrolment of 8,752 students, the number of teachers being 500. It started with five faculties : arts, science, commerce, law and education. Situated in the Alaknanda valley, the university commands a picturesque and panoramic view.

The Government Degree College, Lansdowne (Jaiharikhali) was founded in 1917 and was then known as King George's High School. It was raised to the status of a degree college in 1972 for

the children of the personnel of the defence forces. It has arrangements for games and sports and maintains a library containing 28,000 books. In 1974-75 the number of students in the degree section was 36 and the number of teachers 13.

The Birla Government Degree College, Srinagar, was established in 1961 and imparts education up to the post-graduate level in both arts and science subjects. In 1974-75 the enrolment was 537 and it had a teaching staff of 36. The college has a library which contains 92,500 books and an attached reading-room.

The Dr V. Gopala Reddi Government Post-graduate College, Pauri, was established in 1971 as a degree college for the degree of Bachelor of Arts. It was raised to post-graduate status in 1974-75. In 1974-75 there were 230 students (including 56 girls) on roll and 13 teachers.

#### EDUCATION OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

To encourage education amongst the youth of the Scheduled Castes and the Other Backward Classes, the State government has provided various incentives such as exemption from tuition fees, stipends, scholarships, financial assistance for purchase of books and stationery, hostel facilities and relaxation of the upper age limit for admission to certain educational institutions.

The number of students receiving such financial and other assistance in different categories of schools in 1974 was as follows :

Type of school	Scheduled Castes		Other Backward Classes	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Junior and senior Basic	916	119	57	13
Higher secondary (up to class XII)	143	14	19	—

#### Professional and Technical Education

The Rajkiya Diksha Vidyalaya, Pauri, was started in 1945. The duration of training is one year, the award being the Basic Teachers Certificate. The number of pupil teachers and teachers in 1974-75 was 92 and 11 respectively.

The Rajkiya Diksha Vidyalaya, Jaiharikhali, was established in 1963 for training men teachers for primary schools and awards the Basic Teachers Certificate. The duration of the training course is one year. There were 183 students and 11 teachers in this institution in 1973-74.

The Rajkiya Kanya Diksha Vidyalayas, Pauri, was founded in 1964 and awards the Basic teachers certificate. In 1974-75 the number of pupil teachers was 97 and that of teachers 10.

The industrial training institute, Srinagar, was established in 1959. It imparts training in various trades including of draftsman mechanic, draftsman civil, surveyor, electrician, fitter, welder, stenographer, etc. The trainees are awarded certificates on the successful completion of their training. The number of trainees was 284 in 1974-75.

In 1976-77, three other industrial training institutes were established, one each at Dogadda Pokhavah and Sulmahaden.

### Oriental Education

**Sanrkrit**—There were six institutions providing oriental education in the district in 1974-75. The syllabus includes subjects like Sanskrit literature, *vyakarana* (grammar), *ganita* (mathematics) and *darshan* (philosophy). They are affiliated to the Varanaseya Sanskrit Vishwa-vidyalaya, Varanasi. Some particulars relating to them are given below :

Name and location	Year of establishment	Founder	No. of teachers	No. of students
Sri Hari Adarsha Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Kinkaleshwar, Pauri	1870	Sri Hari Sharma Muni	2	28
Sri Raghunath Kirti Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Devprayag	1912	Garhwal Bhratamandala	4	14
Sri Maharsi Kulbrahmcharya-ashrama Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Lachmanjhoola	1918	Mahant Ram Udar Dasji	2	16
Sri Swargaashrama Trust Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Swargaashrama, Pauri	1958	Swargaashrama Committee	4	26
Sri Devi Sampad Adhaytama Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya Parmarthaniketans, Pauri	1961	Sri Swami Sukhdevanand	6	41
Sri Jwaladham Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Jwaladham, Pauri	1973	Jwala Devi Mandir Samiti	3	11

### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical education for boys and girls under the auspices of the national cadet corps, auxiliary cadet corps and the district Bharat scouts and girl guides association, is imparted in almost all educational institutions of the district. Guidance in physical education is provided through inspection and personal supervision. Mass physical training exercises and displays are the main features at the regional camps. Students are also trained in social and cultural activities at the time of the annual rallies when competitive games and tournaments, etc., are also held.

## FINE ARTS

## Folk-songs and Folk-dances

Garhwal has been rich in its fine arts from ancient times. Tradition has it that Narada, the great rishi, learnt the science of music from Siva at Rudraprayag. The folk-songs and folk-dances of the district depict various facets of Garhwali culture. After the day's hard labour men and women usually find recreation in singing and dancing. The songs and dances are marked by simplicity of theme and rhythm.

One of the well-known folksongs popular in the district tells the story of some gods and goddesses and has a ritualistic importance. In the Jagar type of puja, the spirit of a locally revered deity is invoked by reciting songs in its praise. When the recital reaches its climax, the person into whom the spirit of the god enters, begins to shake and goes into a state of trance. He shivers and dances in a strange manner and speaks whatever the god intends to convey through him. Songs of the Panwara type are composed in praise of local heroes and were recited in wars to keep up the morale of the fighting forces. The Panwara dance accompanies the recitation of Panwara ballads and songs, some romantic ones being famous. Other folk-songs such as Chopatti, Barubond and Samara are based on love themes and there are also ceremonial, specially marriage songs, called *mangal geet*. The songs sung by women in recollection and praise of their parent at home are known as *khader geet*. Songs are also sung at different seasons of the year. Songs may be sung solo but the dances are performed by a group of persons.

The Doli dance is performed when the image of a deity is taken out from the temple in a palanquin by two persons who dance to the accompaniment of drums and *rangsinghas*. Another popular dance is the Rasu which is a vigorous and rhythmic dance and is performed by a leader whose dance pattern and steps are followed by the rest of the dancers. The dance is accompanied by either a song or instrumental music. The most popular folk-dances in the district are the Jhara and the Chanchari. In the former the participants form a circle holding one another by the hand and bend forward slowly. The main singer sings and dances inside the circle followed by others. In the latter the movements are slower and the circle is often divided into semi-circles. The song accompanying the dance sometimes narrates the woes of a bride in her new home or the sentiments of a wife whose husband has gone away from home in search of work. The Ghumailo and the Chaunphula dances are community dances which are performed during the spring season. Men and women dancers dance opposite each other, no musical instrument being used, the rhythm being set by clapping. In the Cholia dance the dancers represent warring Rainput heroes and hold swords and shields in their hands with no song for accompaniment. A peculiar feature of this dance is the swift steps taken. The Thadiya dance is accompanied by songs and is performed on

Vasanta Panchami and the Mata Mela during the Divali and Holi fairs. The Pandava dance is generally performed in every village during the winter after the crops have been harvested. It is something like a dance opera depicting the principal events of the *Mahabharata*. Usually five men, representing the Pandava brothers and a woman representing Draupadi, take part in it though others join in when it is at its peak. It is a vigorous and rhythmic dance, the dancers changing steps with the change in the beat of the drums. It sometimes continues for hours and those getting tired are replaced by others from the spectators.

These folk-songs and folk-dances are usually accompanied by a variety of musical instruments some of which are the *murli*, *turhi*, *hurka*, *dhol*, *nagara*, *jhanj* and *thali*.

The various fairs and festivals of the district have played a major role in preserving the culture of the region and the technique of folk-songs and folk-dances. New songs are also composed on current topics.

### **Painting**

About the middle of the 17th century, Suleman Shikoh, a Mughal prince, brought to Garhwal (of which this district then formed a part) an artist and his son who were ordinary painters. About a century later, a famous painter, Mola Ram, a Garhwali produced a style of painting equalled in romantic charm only by the style of painting of another hill State, Kanera. The matrimonial alliance of the king, Pradyuman Sah. (1797-1804) with a Guler princess (of Kanera) induced many Guler artists to come and reside in Garhwal. Their technique greatly influenced the Garhwali style of painting. With its cultivation of ideal beauty, its fusion of religion and romance, its blending of poetry and passion the Garhwali paintings (of this type) are an embodiment in painting of the Indian attitude to love.

The Garhwalis, ornament their wooden doors and pillars with wood carving, their wooden vessels, pots and containers are also made by local artisans and are used for storing pickles and for ghee, milk, sugar, etc. The icons and images of gods and goddess are carved in stone but the quality is not remarkable.

### **LIBRARIES AND READING ROOMS**

There are a number of libraries in the rural areas. The Sri Gauri Sarvajanik Library was established in Kotdwar in 1950. It has 5,244 books and also subscribes to 67 magazines and periodicals. The number of persons who visited the library in 1974-75 was 38,920.

## STATEMENT No. I

## Intermediate Colleges

Reference page No. 186

Name of institution	Year of recognition as intermediate college
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## FOR BOYS

Government Intermediate College, Jahanikhal	1948
Government Intermediate College, Rudraprayag	1951
Myasmor Intermediate College, Pauri	1951
Intermediate College, Kotdwara	1951
Intermediate College, Dogadda	1951
Government Intermediate College, Srinagar	1954
Intermediate College, Devaprayag	1962
Intermediate College, Bedikhhal	1963
Intermediate College, Nogabakhal	1964
Intermediate College, Pokhra	1964
Intermediate College, Motiyali	1965
Intermediate College, Bironkhal	1965
Intermediate College, Bhrigukhal	1965
Intermediate College, Kot	1966
Intermediate College, Khishun	1966
Intermediate College, Barkhet	1969
Intermediate College, Kaskhet	1969
Intermediate College, Pabao	1969
Intermediate College, Ekeshwar	Not available
Intermediate College, Deorajkhal	Not available
Intermediate College, Kherakhal	Not available
Intermediate College, Khandare	1970
Intermediate College, Pokhal	1971
Intermediate College, Dhumakot	1972
Intermediate College, Deoli	Not available
Intermediate College, Charani	Not available
Intermediate College, Kanvagtali	1973
D. A. V. College, Pauri	1974

## FOR GIRLS

Government Girls' Intermediate College, Srinagar
Government Girls' Intermediate College, Kotdwara
Government Girls' Intermediate College, Pauri
Government Girls' Intermediate College, Lansdowne

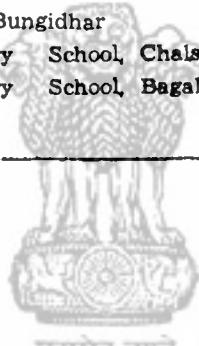
## STATEMENT No. II

## High Schools

Reference page No. 186

Name of institution			Year of recognition as High Schools
Higher	Secondary	School, Silaugi	1954
Higher	Secondary	School, Dehalchauri	1955
Higher	Secondary	School, Dudharkhal	1963
Higher	Secondary	School, Kalagarh	1964
Higher	Secondary	School, Lansdowne	Not available
Higher	Secondary	School, Chakhisain	1964
Higher	Secondary	School, Jogimari	1965
Higher	Secondary	School, Rikhnikhali	Not available
Higher	Secondary	School, Motadhak	1966
Higher	Secondary	School, Mawadhar	Not available
Higher	Secondary	School, Dainvachal	"
Higher	Secondary	School, Latauli	"
Higher	Secondary	School, Salpati	"
Higher	Secondary	School, Indrapuri	1967
Higher	Secondary	School, Kutiyalal	1968
Higher	Secondary	School, Rithalale	1968
Higher	Secondary	School, Jakhetti	1968
Higher	Secondary	School, Gueenlal	1968
Higher	Secondary	School, Kamajpur	1968
Higher	Secondary	School, Baijor	1968
Higher	Secondary	School, Adhoriapal	1968
Higher	Secondary	School, Haldakhal	1968
Higher	Secondary	School, Pali	1969
Higher	Secondary	School, Adalikhali	1969
Higher	Secondary	School, Molisera	Not available
Higher	Secondary	School, Kothila	"
Higher	Secondary	School, Kingaurikhali	1970
Higher	Secondary	School, Chamkhotkhali	1970
Higher	Secondary	School, Kitbokhal	1971
Higher	Secondary	School, Nainidanda	1971
Higher	Secondary	School, Thalisen	1971
Higher	Secondary	School, Sidhpur	1972
Higher	Secondary	School, Kotdwara	1972
Higher	Secondary	School, Siku	1972
Higher	Secondary	School, Sauli	1972

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Higher	Secondary	School, Nahsen		1972
Higher	Secondary	School, Andralo		1973
Higher	Secondary	School, Dhindavada		1973
Higher	Secondary	School, Farsari		1973
Higher	Secondary	School, Yamkeshwar		1973
Higher	Secondary	School, Lalitpur		Not available
Higher	Secondary	School, Sokarsen		"
Higher	Secondary	School, Uprekhal		"
Higher	Secondary	School, Devilal Bhayansu		"
Higher	Secondary	School, Dewalgarh		1974
Higher	Secondary	School, Kimsar		Not available
Higher	Secondary	School, Pauri		1974
Higher	Secondary	School, Bungidhar		Not available
Government	Higher Secondary	School, Chaisen		1975
Government	Higher Secondary	School, Bagalgadi Buga		1975



## STATEMENT III

## Literacy and General Education

Reference Page No. 185

Year	Junior Basic Education				Senior Basic education				Higher secondary education			
	No. of schools	No. of students		No. of schools	No. of students		No. of schools	No. of students		No. of schools	No. of students	
		For boys	For girls		Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls
1965-66	783	122	48,303	28,187	16	9	1,758	339	40	4	17,885	1,830
1966-67	783	122	48,659	28,644	17	10	1,554	352	43	4	19,613	1,695
1967-68	783	122	48,660	28,756	25	11	1,779	444	46	4	20,212	1,985
1968-69	783	123	48,869	29,184	30	12	2,241	532	49	4	20,938	2,200
1969-70	783	125	50,782	30,764	33	16	2,366	994	54	4	22,005	2,499
1970-71	794	126	52,973	33,097	35	20	2,406	1,054	58	4	22,885	2,513
1971-72	794	130	53,069	34,117	37	22	2,491	1,122	63	5	24,112	2,887
1972-73	798	144	53,109	35,080	39	25	2,338	798	64	5	24,900	3,000
1973-74	798	146	53,091	37,009	46	26	3,035	840	71	5	26,298	3,598
1974-75	821	147	54,713	38,103	44	26	3,929	1,413	76	5	28,000	4,000

## STATEMENT IV

Higher Education (Bachelor's) and (Master's Degree)

Reference Page No. 185

Year	Bachelor's Degree			Master's Degree			No. of students	No. of students	No. of College	Boys	Girls	Faculties functioning	Faculties functioning
	No. of colleges	Boys	Girls	Arts and Science	Arts	Science							
1965-66	1	135	4	Arts and Science	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1966-67	1	142	6	“	“	“	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1967-68	1	152	10	“	“	“	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1968-69	1	187	22	“	“	“	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1969-70	1	214	34	“	“	“	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1970-71	1	218	39	“	“	“	—	—	1	21	8	“	“
1971-72	3	333	70	Arts Science B.Ed.	1	21	8	“	“	“	“	“	“
1972-73	4	542	122	“	“	“	1	30	10	—	—	—	—
1973-74	4	683	208	“	“	“	1	30	30	—	—	—	—
1974-75	4	775	191	“	“	“	3	249	61	—	—	—	—

## CHAPTER XVI

### MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

#### Medical Facilities in Early Times

Ayurveda was the only system of medicine practised in the Garhwal region in early times for treating ailments. The legend goes that when Rama wanted to revive Lakshmana who had been mortally injured, Hanuman rushed to the Niti valley in district Chamoli, north of Garhwal, and brought the entire mountain of Dunagiri on which grew the *Sanjivani booti*, a herb said to resuscitate life. In days gone by it was the custom of the practitioners of Ayurveda (usually known as *oxids* or *bhishaks*) to treat the sick as a pious duty. Some plants and herbs valued in Ayurveda for their therapeutic virtues and still found in these parts are *atis*, *mahur*, *kamal* (lotus), *brahmi* and *kingora-ka-jar* (lykion). They were exported to ancient Greece and Rome as febrifuges and medicines for certain diseases of the eye. Minerals such as sulphur, borax, gypsum and *silajit* (impure sulphate of alumina) which are found here, are also considered in Ayurveda to have therapeutic value, as also musk which is obtained from the musk deer, found at heights ranging from 2.44 to 4 km. above sea-level. The district has a number of thermal and medicinal springs which are known for their healing properties. In the past diseases were generally attributed to sin, crime and disobedience of religious and natural laws and those who treated such troubles claimed to possess healing powers through magic, incantations, exorcism and the propitiation of malevolent spirits and stars.

During Muslim rule, the Unani system of medicine was introduced in the *bhabar* areas of the district around Kotdwara, which lies near Najibabad, a town of importance during the rule of the Rohillas. This system is a combination of the Arabic and Greek systems and evolved through the experimental treatments of celebrated *hakims* like Rhazes, Harbiul-Abbo and Ahconna. Practitioners of the system were called *hakims*.

The allopathic system of medicine was introduced by the British after the annexation of the district by them in 1815. At first the hospitals and dispensaries in the district were placed under the charge of the district board, though the civil surgeon, who was posted at Pauri, looked after matters relating to their administration in addition to his own medical work. Sometime, at the turn of the last century, hospitals were started at Pauri, Kotdwara and Srinagar and dispensaries were established at Kadi, Banghat and Awari.

In the four Five-year Plan periods (1951-52 to 1973-74) medical and health services, were augmented and in 1975 there

were 4 hospitals, a T. B. clinic, a leprosy centre, a mobile hospital, 23 allopathic dispensaries, 15 primary health centres, 15 maternity and child welfare centres, 15 family planning centres, 3 homoeopathic dispensaries and a large number of Ayurvedic dispensaries in the district. The maternity and child welfare and the family planning centres are linked to 80 subcentres which are located mainly in the interior villages and patti but even so only one bed is available approximately for 500 of the population. The following statement gives the number of beds available in 1969, 1972 and 1974.

Year	No. of beds available
1969	336
1972	402
1974	582

There are only five private allopathic clinics, four being located in the urban centres and one in the rural areas. The major clinic is the eye hospital at Kotdwar.

### Vital Statistics

As the district of Garhwal included the district of Chamoli also till 1960, separate vital statistics for the period preceding 1960 are not available. The following statement indicates the vital statistic for the district of Garhwal when it comprised the areas of Chanduli and Garhwal:

Year	Rate per thousand of population	
	Birth-rate	Death-rate
1941	28.4	27.2
1942	32.2	25.8
1943	33.4	23.7
1944	34.6	24.1
1945	35.3	26.9
1946	33.2	23.3
1947	34.7	26.6
1948	34.0	25.5
1949	32.2	19.2
1950	28.4	21.3

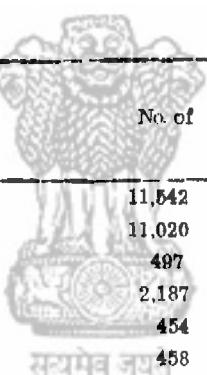
An examination of the vital statistics of the district since 1951 reveals that the birth-rate has been higher than the death-rate, and fluctuations in either case have been more or less the same, both having declined considerably in the last two decades. The figures are not very reliable as large-scale omissions in the registration of births and deaths are apprehended but they are

indicative of the general trend. The following figures pertaining to the district give some idea of the situation:

Year	Rate per thousand of population	
	Birth-rate	Death-rate
1951	32.3	24.5
1956	26.0	20.5
1957	21.0	17.6
1958	20.5	16.3
1959	16.5	13.5
1960	15.3	12.4

The number of births and deaths tended to decrease in the sixties and early seventies, the figures being given in the following statement :

Year	No. of births	No. of deaths
1967	11,542	6,338
1968	11,020	5,678
1969	487	65
1970	2,187	865
1971	454	43
1972	458	62



### Infant Mortality

The rate of mortality among children below one year in age was alarming till 1950. More than 7,000 children died each year before 1950. The average infant mortality was about 4,000 after 1950. The following statement gives the figures of infant mortality from 1967 to 1972 :

Year	Infant mortality (No. of deaths)
1967	1,212
1968	1,110
1969	7
1970	206
1971	8
1972	5

## Common Diseases

Diseases which commonly caused death were cholera, smallpox, plague, fever, bowel disorders and respiratory diseases. Malaria sometimes took the heaviest toll of life every year in the hilly areas sometimes killing the people of entire villages which had to be abandoned by the surviving few but it has been almost wholly controlled since the launching of the malaria eradication programme in 1956. Other epidemics have also been largely controlled but fevers still claim the highest percentage of the total number of deaths in the district.

The term 'fever' has wide connotations. It not only includes such diseases as malaria and typhoid but also covers many unidentified diseases of which fever is only a symptom.

Dysentery and diarrhoea usually account for a large number of deaths in the district. The consumption of polluted and unprotected water is the main cause of these diseases. Sometimes diarrhoea is the result of malarial fever also.

Respiratory diseases generally lead to temporary or permanent infirmities and in a few cases they hasten death.

Insanity, leprosy and tuberculosis are some other diseases which have been prevalent in the district for long. Efforts made by government to improve environmental conditions and the health of the people have helped to decrease the incidence of these diseases. The district has a T.B. clinic at Pauri, which was established in 1960. A leprosy centre was opened at Bhasikhhal in 1965 and the other hospitals in the district provide treatment for other diseases.

The number of deaths due to various causes in 1946, 1950, 1956, and 1960 are set out in the following statement. The figures pertain to the erstwhile district of Garhwal which comprised the present districts of Chamoli and Garhwal.

Year	No. of deaths due to				
	Fever	Dysentery and diarrhoea	Respiratory diseases	Other diseases	Injuries
1946	10,477	1,571	885	1,399	352
1950	9,429	315	275	4,051	Nil
1956	6,964	1,369	1,046	2,119	225
1960	1,513	1,002	757	924	55

The number of deaths due to various diseases has decreased in recent years, the figures being given in the following statement which pertain to district Garhwal.

Year	Fever	No. of deaths due to			
		Dysentery and diarrhoea	Respiratory diseases	Other diseases	Injuries
1967	2,373	846	597	2,489	32
1968	2,710	758	780	1,376	73
1969	12	5	10	53	3
1970	484	98	98	160	12
1971	9	3	13	15	3
1972	18	5	17	17	5

### Epidemics

The district is now comparatively free from epidemics, no death from plague or cholera having been reported since 1951. The incidence of death from smallpox has also not risen above 0.07 per thousand of the total population. The deputy chief medical officer who is assisted by a team of qualified and trained persons including epidemic assistants, sanitary inspectors and vaccinators, is responsible for taking steps to prevent and control the epidemics in the district. The services of the medical officers of the State allopathic and Ayurvedic dispensaries and primary health centres and the medical officers, sanitary inspectors and vaccinators employed in the local bodies, are requisitioned for helping in the prevention and control of an epidemic breaking out in the district. Cholera broke out in an epidemic form in 1892, 1903 and 1908, the outbreak being attributed to the influx of pilgrims visiting the shrines of Badrinath and Kedarnath in the north of the district, who passed through Pauri, Srinagar and Rudraprayag. The epidemic generally broke out at the end of the hot weather and the beginning of the rain. Sometime in 1921, cholera broke out again. One of the causes of the rapid spread of the epidemic was the abandonment of the corpses of the victims on the banks of rivers and streams which got polluted and carried the infection to villages in the lower reaches.

*Mahamari*, the hill or great plague, is the same disease as the Egyptian or Levantine plague. It was endemic in this region and from 1823 to 1910 small outbreaks of the epidemic, confined to one or two villages, appeared every three or four years, carrying off half the population of the affected villages. An outbreak was always preceded by mortality among rats, which served as a warning. Extension of preventive and curative measures has considerably reduced the incidence of the disease, which has not made its appearance in the district since 1951.

Smallpox does not appear to have broken out seriously in the mountains of the district but in the *bhabar* area it assumed the form of an epidemic many times.

The following statement gives the number of deaths due to cholera, smallpox and plague in 1946, 1950, 1956 and 1960. The figures pertain to the erstwhile district of Garhwal which comprised the present Chamoli and Garhwal districts.

Year	No. of deaths due to		
	Cholera	Smallpox	Plague
1946	129	28	Nil
1950	36	59	Nil
1956	Nil	22	Nil
1960	Nil	22	Nil

In recent years deaths due to epidemics have been rare. Till 1972 there were no deaths due to plague but in 1970 about 11 persons died of smallpox and two of cholera.

#### ORGANISATIONAL SET-UP

The medical and public health departments of the State were amalgamated in 1948 under one directorate to supervise and control the allopathic, Ayurvedic and Unani institutions and services. In July, 1961, a separate directorate was established for Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries and services.

The chief medical officer is the head of the entire medical set up in the district. He has overall charge of the State hospitals and the allopathic and homoeopathic dispensaries.

He is assisted by three deputies, designated deputy chief medical officers. Sanitary inspectors and health visitor look after the environmental sanitation work in each development block and supervise the work relating to control and prevention of epidemics and impart health education to the villagers. Health officers and sanitary inspectors are also posted in the urban areas under each local body. Special health staff is posted on the pilgrim routes to Badrinath and Kedarnath in the seasons of pilgrimage. An idea of the public health activities undertaken in the four Five-year Plan periods can be had from the following statement :

Activity		
Construction of diggis	(No.)	1,102
Repair of diggis	(No.)	541
Construction of pipe-line diggis	(No.)	636
Ordinary channels Laid		1,890 km.
Masonry channels laid		20 km.
No. of sanitary latrines constructed		147

## Hospitals

There are in the district four State hospitals not including the railway, police and jail hospitals. A mobile hospital is also available at Pauri.

The District Hospital, Pauri, was established in 1962 and it has X-ray and operation facilities. It has 115 beds, of which 10 are reserved for women. A T. B. clinic, which was established in 1960, is attached to this hospital. The Women's Hospital, Pauri is an old institution and it has 20 beds. The Male Hospital, Kotdwara, and the Male Hospital, Srinagar, are also old institutions. The former has 64 and the latter 54 beds but takes in females also though the name suggests otherwise. The mobile motor-van hospital at Pauri, provides only out-door treatment. A leprosy centre was established at Bhasighkhal in 1965, with one bed.

The following statement gives the number of the staff and the number of patients treated in each of the hospitals in 1974-75 :

Name of hospital	Staff		No. of patients treated	
	No. of doctors	No. of Other staff	Indoor	Out-door
संघर्षमेव जयने				
District Hospital, Pauri	18	87	1,528	35,158
Women's Hospital, Pauri	1	12	105	2,089
Male Hospital, Kotdwara	1	23	540	19,970
Male Hospital, Srinagar	1	26	268	16,072
T. B. Clinic, Pauri	2	18	—	2,761
Mobile Hospital, Pauri	1	4	Not available	
Leprosy Centre, Bhasighkhal	—	1	Not available	

There is a railway hospital at Kotdwara, which provides indoor and out-door treatment for railway employees.

## Dispensaries

Allopathic—The following statement gives the number of the staff and the number of beds provided in each of the dispensaries in the district in 1974-75 :

Name of dispensary	No. of staff		No. of beds
	Doctor	Others	
Male dispensary, Rudraprayag	1	4	6
Women's dispensary Rudraprayag	1	2	6
Women's dispensary, Srinagar	1	5	6
Chakisa'n	1	3	4
Naugaonkhel	1	3	4
Badiyargaon	1	3	4
Dudharkhal	1	3	4
Kandi	1	4	5
Banghat	1	3	5
Bhrigukhal	1	2	4
Chelusain	1	3	4
Women's dispensary, Kotdwara	1	5	26
Kalaghati	1	3	4
Lakshman Jhula	1	4	26
Sumersain	1	3	4
Chiphalghat	-	3	4
Dhumakot	1	3	4
Kher Rakhal	-	3	4
Bughani	-	3	4
Balli	-	3	4
Adalikhali	1	3	4
Adwani	-	3	4
Sumarhi	1	2	4
Sainjee	1	3	6

सत्यमेव जयते

**Ayurvedic**—There are 17 Ayurvedic in the district. The following statement gives the number of staff employed and the number of beds available in the Ayurvedic dispensaries in 1974-75 :

Bocation	No. of doctors	Other staff	No. of beds
Srikotkhal	1	3	4
Bairagana	1	2	-
Simalana	1	3	4
Bungidhar	1	2	-
Pokhri Khet	1	2	-
Dhauntiyal	1	3	-
Nagar	1	3	4
Pabau	1	2	4
Sakanikhet	1	3	4
Mohan Chatti	1	3	4
Churani	1	2	4
Devalgarh	1	3	-
Tal Champeswar	1	3	4
Agrisain	1	4	4
Pokhra	1	2	-
Jogimarhi	1	3	4
Tarpalisain	1	2	4

The number of indoor patients treated in 1974-75 was 71,587.

### Primary Health Centres

In order to extend medical facilities and improve the health standards of the rural population, the government has established primary health centres in every development block and there were 15 such centres in 1975, each manned by a medical officer assisted by a para-medical and health staff consisting of pharmacists, health inspectors, health visitors, vaccinators, supervisors and family planning workers. Each centre has generally a four-bed ward for indoor patients at the district headquarters. The deputy chief medical officer controls their functioning. The following statement gives the location and year of establishment of each primary health centre :

Primary health centre	Year of establishment	Development block in which located
Thailsain	1957-58	Thailsain
Nainidanda	1957-58	Nainidanda
Dada Mandi	1959-60	Dhangu
Parsundal	1960-61	Pauri
Bironi	1963-64	Bironka
Khirsu	1969-70	Khirsu
Jaharkhal	1970-71	Lansdowne
Pabau	1971-72	Pabau
Gandiyal	1971-72	Kaljikhali
Kot	1972-73	Kot
Patisain	1972-73	Ekeshwar
Pokharha	1973-74	Pokharha
Rikhnikhali	1973-74	Rikhnikhali
Kathgarh	1973-74	Dogadda
(Former clinic converted)		
Kathghar	1973-74	Dhagu

#### Maternity and Child Welfare

Maternity and child welfare activities in the district, as elsewhere in the State, have come a long way since the days of the untrained *dai* and the village doctor. Lack of facilities for ante-natal and post-natal care contributed largely to a high incidence of mortality among women and children till the late forties of this century.

In 1958, the government started establishing maternity and child welfare centres in the district which numbered 15 in 1974, one centre being located in each development block and three subcentres being attached to a centre. There were 45 subcentres in the district in 1975. Each centre has a health visitor, a midwife and a *dai*. A *dai* is posted at a subcentre. Since 1973 a new scheme of prophylaxis of children and pregnant women against nutritional anaemia and other common diseases has also been launched.

These centres are equipped with aids and devices for educating women in planned parenthood. Family planning literature and contraceptives are also made available free of cost to married persons.

The following statement gives the number of cases conducted by the midwives and *dais* of these centres :

Year	Cases conducted by		
	Midwives	Dais	Total
1972	1,265	807	2,072
1973	1,619	1,261	2,880
1974	2,254	1,566	3,820

An auxiliary nurses and midwives training centre was established at Pauri in 1970. Training in nursing is imparted to persons who have passed the junior high school examination. The training period is two years and each trainee receives a stipend of Rs 75 per month. The centre is equipped with facilities that ensure the training of 50 persons at a time but only four persons were trained in 1972.

### Vaccination

The deputy chief medical officer is in charge of the work of vaccination in the district. He is assisted by an assistant superintendent of vaccination, a sanitary inspector and a team of a vaccinators. Vaccinators are also posted at the primary health centres and the local civic bodies. The work of vaccination has been intensified since 1963, when the national smallpox eradication scheme was launched. Though the vaccination Act of 1880 was in force in the district from its inception, it could not be implemented fully due to lack of co-operation on the part of the people. Under this Act vaccination is not compulsory in rural areas except for short periods during the outbreak of epidemics. During the post-natal period mothers are advised to have the child vaccinated as early as possible after the child is two or three months old.

The following statement gives the number of persons vaccinated during the years 1962- to 1974 :

Year	No. of primary vaccinations		No. of vaccinations	
	Successful	Unsuccessful	Successful	Unsuccessful
1962	22,927	47	11,889	6,435
1963	27,089	15	37,832	35,060
1964	Not available	142	13,368	2,190
1965	16,350	18	15,955	648
1966	19,234	4	23,070	3,570
1967	12,752	8	13,195	8,450
1968	19,869	86	22,524	5,929
1969	28,116	50	28,082	2,158
1970	35,465	4	34,285	6,199
1971	44,577	19	43,070	1,184
1972	28,922	43	92,075	1,056
1973	24,034	506	59,931	25,766
1974	28,530	897	44,557	30,973

### Eye Relief

Cataract, glaucoma and trachoma are the most common diseases of the eye in the district. The eye hospital, Kotdwara, treated a number of patients in the three years ended 1974 as stated below :

Year	No. of patients treated			
	Indoor	Outdoor	No. of operations performed	No. of refractions
1972	2,798	13,450	391	471
1973	4,089	13,527	432	567
1974	4,300	15,040	520	581

### Prevention of Food and Drug Adulteration

There is a public analyst for analysing the samples of food, etc., taken from shops and vendors by the sanitary inspectors. Suitable action is taken against offenders under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954. The deputy chief medical officer is the licensing authority for food establishments and drug stores in the district. He is assisted by a drug inspector in his work of checking the adulteration of drugs and in ensuring that due observance of the Indian Drugs Act, 1940, and Drug Rules, 1945, is made by the owners of drug stores.

Some information about the adulteration of eatables is given in the following statement :

Year	No. of samples collected	No. of samples found adulterated	No. of cases in which punishment awarded
1972	220	40	19
1973	309	55	12
1974	234	40	10

### Anti-malaria Programme

The national malaria control programme was launched in district Garhwal in 1956-57. The activities under the programme were confined mainly to the spraying of D.D.T. twice a year in all roofed structures. In 1958-59 this programme was converted into the national malaria eradication programme under which two subunits were established at Najibabad, district Bijnor, which were responsible for covering all areas of district Garhwal at altitudes below 1, 523 m. Under this programme, D.D.T. spraying was undertaken in two parts in a year, from May 1 to July 15 and from July 16 to September 30. The scheme was in the charge of the district medical officer of health at the district level, assisted by 2 assistant malaria maintenance officers, 4 malaria inspectors, 8 field workers and 111 others.

Surveillance operations, both active and passive, were launched in 1960-61. Under the former, cases of fever are detected and blood smears are collected through the staff employed in the anti-malaria subunits. Under the latter, this type of work is done

through the agencies hospitals and dispensaries. The malaria cases so detected are radically treated and other remedial measures like focal spraying and mass contact surveys are also undertaken.

At the recommendation of the appraisal team of the Government of India, the district entered the consolidation phase in 1963-64. The district remained in this phase for three years and then it entered the maintenance phase in 1965-66. Under this scheme the programme became a part of the district health scheme and it was placed under the deputy chief medical officer, subject to the overall supervision of the chief medical officer of the district. The main functions under the maintenance phase are monthly fever detection and administration of anti-malaria drugs, vaccination work under the national smallpox eradication programme, collection of vital statistics and dissemination of information about family planning. At the district level the district officer is assisted by two assistant malaria maintenance officers and a laboratory technician. The work in the primary health centres is undertaken by 2 health inspectors, 8 basic health workers and a laboratory technician.

The following statement indicates the incidence of malaria in the district.

Year	No. of blood slides examined	No. of malaria cases detected
1970	16,815	4
1971	16,794	15
1972	17,943	7
1973	17,754	8
1974	20,041	29

### Family Planning

The family planning scheme was introduced in the district in the fifties of this century but the work gathered momentum in 1966, when concrete steps were taken to implement the programme of family planning. The deputy chief medical officer is in overall charge of such operations. Medical officers posted in the primary health centres also perform vasectomy and tubectomy operations.

Efforts are made to popularise family planning through films, placards, posters and by personal guidance. The number of operations conducted from 1965-66 to 1974-75 is given below :

Year	No. of sterilisation operations	No. of loops inserted
1965-66	1,264	32
1966-67	1,243	253
1967-68	507	241
1968-69	1,148	258
1969-70	249	91
1970-71	274	126
1971-72	367	113
1972-73	1,792	212
1973-74	95	300
1974-75	308	1,190

### District Branch of Indian Red Cross Society

The district magistrate, Garhwal, is the *ex officio* president of the district branch of the Indian Red Cross Society and the chief medical officer, Garhwal, the vice president, the deputy chief medical officer being the honorary secretary. The society provides relief to the people in times of natural calamities. Funds are raised by enrolling annual and associate members. In the past the society managed two maternity and child welfare centres, one each at Srinagar and Lansdowne. These centres have now been taken over by the State government.

### Drinking Water Schemes

The district abounds in springs, waterfalls and rivers but clean drinking water is scarce and bathing is rare and consequently insanitary habits develop. Drinking water has been provided since 1964 by the local self-government engineering unit and drinking water is available to the urban centres of Lansdowne, Pauri, Srinagar, Rudraprayag and Kotdwara. By the end of the Fourth Five-year Plan period drinking water was made available to 363 villages. It will be made available to the towns of Dogadda and Bah Bazar and 150 villages will also be benefited by the scheme which employed 4,220 persons in the Fifth Plan period.

### Diet and Nutrition

In the nineteenth century, coarse grains like *mandua* and *jhongora* and sometime rice formed the staple diet of the poorer sections. Some milk was consumed by all people and the meat

of goats, hill sheep and venison was also eaten. As the sheep of the plains, with its long tail, was considered akin to the dog, it was not eaten. Wild vegetables, herbs and roots were also eaten which sometimes led to fatal results. Many living in the *bhaber* area, who could afford it, ate wheat, rice, dal, vegetables and jaggery. Rice forms the common diet and wheat is also eaten by a large number of people and often *mandua* and *jhangora* are also eaten. Hand-pounded rice is generally eaten in the villages and the water in which rice is cooked is either not thrown away or taken out and mixed with other preparations. The total *per capita* cereal consumption exceeds 400 gm., which is the normal requirement. The consumption of pulses, ghee and oil is only 14 gm., about half of the required quantity. The consumption of fruits is negligible and the average diet is dominated by cereals, potatoes and onions. Although many persons eat meat and fish, the *per capita* consumption is about 10 gm., against the 85 gm. normally required. Seasonal fruits are cheap and plentiful. In summer plums, apricots, peaches; apples in the rains; and oranges and lemons in winter are available even for the poorest persons which make up for some nutritional deficiencies.



## CHAPTER XVII

### OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

#### LABOUR WELFARE

After the attainment of Independence, the government initiated many schemes to provide better facilities for the peasantry and the working classes which would create a congenial atmosphere for the steady growth and development of the State. The labour welfare programmes aim at benefiting labour by guaranteeing minimum wages, social security (such as State insurance of employees and security for old age), collective bargaining through the medium of recognised trade unions, medical and maternity facilities, regulated working hours, payment of bonus for incentive, payment of compensation, regulated wages minimum standard of lighting and ventilation, safety, canteens, recreation, leave housing, holidays, holiday homes, etc.

The district falls in the Bareilly region of the State labour department. At the district level, the labour inspector stationed at Kotdwara ensures the administration and compliance of labour laws including prosecutions for their infringement, enforcement of labour welfare schemes and liaison between employees and employers. The factories inspector also inspects factories under the Factories Act, 1948, Payment of Wages Act, 1936, etc., and takes necessary action against employers failing to comply with the law. There are two boilers in the district which are supervised by the inspector of boilers having his headquarters at Kanpur.

The State and Central Governments have passed a number of legislations for the benefit of labour and their families and to protect their interests. With the coming of Independence in 1947, the government began to take more interest in the promotion of such welfare measures. The seven Acts that were passed before 1947—the Indian Boilers Act, 1923, workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, Payment of Wages Act, 1936, Employment of children Act, 1938, U.P. Maternity Benefit Act, 1947, and Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946, have been amended from time to time to suit the changing pattern of welfare schemes. The bulk of labour legislations was enacted after 1947 and the Acts which are enforced in the district are the U. P. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, Factories Act, 1948, Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, U.P. (Industrial Establishment) National Holidays Act, 1961, U. P. Dookan Avam Vanijya Adhishthan Adhiniyam, 1962, and Payment of Bonus Act, 1965.

In 1974 approximately 538 contraventions of these Acts were detected and 59 prosecutions were launched, the Acts violated being as follows :

Act	No. of contraventions	No. of prosecutions
<b>Industrial Employment (Standing Orders)</b>	1	-
<b>Act, 1946</b>		
<b>Factories Act, 1948</b>	2	-
<b>Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961</b>	4	-
<b>Uttar Pradesh Doonan Avam Vanijya Adhisthan Adhiniyam, 1962</b>	531	50

The amount of compensation which was paid in the five years ended, 1974 under the workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, to the labourers or their dependents on being involved in accidents resulting in disablement or death in the course of employment is given below :

Year	Fatal cases		Disablement cases	
	No. of cases	Amount of compensation paid (in Rs)	No. of cases	Amount of compensation paid (in Rs)
1970	4	24,800	2	12,410
1971	11	75,884	1	1,470
1972	13	91,997	-	-
1973	6	41,100	3	4,940
1974	3	21,997	2	14,140

### Trade Unions

The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, provides for registration of trade unions. It empowers the registrar of trade unions (whose headquarters is at Kanpur) to scrutinise the working of trade unions, obtain returns and to consider applications for registration or for cancellation of the unions. The trade union inspector and his subordinates guide trade unions, watch the interests of "protected workmen" (those officers of registered trade unions who are entitled to certain privileges in respect of service conditions), dismissal or discharge from service and other punishment.

The trade unions are corporate bodies which function in the interest of their members and aim at furthering good relations between employers and employees. They strive to improve the economic, moral and social conditions of the labourer's life and ensure payment of fair wages, the provision of healthy living and working conditions and proper medical and educational facilities for their children. There is one trade union in the district, the **Garhwal motor transport worker's union, Kotdwara**, which was registered in April, 1953. It had 182 members in 1973.

#### OLD-AGE PENSION

The old-age pension scheme was introduced in the district in 1965 to provide help to destitute persons having no means of subsistence and no relations bound by custom or usage to support them. Under this scheme financial assistance was given to those persons who were altogether helpless, had an income of not more than Rs 15 per month and were above 60 years of age in the case of women and above 65 years in the case of men. The amount of the monthly pension was Rs 20. The scheme was liberalised in January, 1972, and the rate of the pension was raised to Rs 30 per month. The benefits of this scheme are not available to beggars, mendicants and inmates of poor-houses. In the hill areas it is difficult for an old person to earn his living and the pension goes a little way in helping such poor people. The pension is sanctioned by the labour commissioner after verification of particulars and on the recommendation of the district officer. The following statement gives the number of recipients in December, 1974 :

Tahsil	Number of pensioners		Total
	Men	Women	
Lansdowne	36	50	86
Pauri	20	47	67

#### PROMOTION

The district has been declared a dry area since 1972. The possession of commodities and articles of excise, except foreign liquor received on permit is an offence. The excise staff of the district detect excise crimes under the U. P. Excise Act, 1910. The prohibition propaganda work is done by private bodies such as the Sarvodaya Samaj and the Arya Samaj which try to educate people about the hazards of the drink evil by organising meetings, distribution of pamphlets, etc. Since the enforcement of total prohibition in the district, about 252 cases of excise crimes were detected about 80 per cent being punished.

## ADVANCEMENT OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

In 1950, the State Harijan Sahayak department was set up to formulate and implement schemes for the welfare of the members of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, the Other Backward Classes and the Criminal Tribes (later to be known as the Denotified Tribes). In 1957 a district Harijan welfare officer was posted in the district whose designation was changed to Harijan and social welfare officer in 1961, when the Harijan Sahayak and social welfare departments were integrated. His main functions are to watch the interests of the members of these groups and implement the schemes formulated by the government for the welfare and amelioration of their lot.

Members of the Scheduled Castes (who were considered to belong to the depressed classes during the British period) have been treated as outcastes by the local hill people of higher castes. The alien government took little interest in their welfare. A half-hearted beginning was made in 1930 when a scheme was formulated for the award of stipends to students belonging to the Scheduled Castes. It was only with the advent of independence that concrete steps were taken for their amelioration and the U. P. Removal of Social Disabilities Act, 1947, was passed in order to ensure to the members of these group the unrestricted enjoyment of social and religious liberties. The Untouchability (offence) Act, 1955, came into force in the State in June, 1955. It has rendered the practice of untouchability an offence punishable under the law. It repealed the corresponding State Act of 1947. The State government also threw open all avenues of employment to members of the Scheduled Castes and major steps were taken for their adequate representation in the services. In 1944, the upper age limit for recruitment to civil posts was relaxed up to 3 years over the prescribed limit. In 1953, the reservation in government services was raised from 10 to 18 per cent. In 1955, the upper age limit was raised up to 5 years for gazetted posts as had already been done for non-gazetted posts in 1952. Government keep a watch on the progress in the recruitment of the Scheduled Castes candidates to various posts and have emphasised that the prescribed percentage for filling up the posts by the Schedule castes candidates must be observed.

A district social welfare committee functions in the district with the district magistrate as chairman. The vice-chairman and other non-official members are nominated by the government. It includes the members of legislature having the whole or part of their constituency in the district. The other official members of the committee are the district planning officer, the district inspector of schools and the district Harijan and social welfare officer who acts as the secretary of the committee. The committee is an advisory body and it advises the zila parishad and other local bodies on matters pertaining to the welfare of the Scheduled Castes.

The government grants advances and loans to members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes for purposes such as agriculture, industries and construction of houses, etc. For the welfare of these groups, government has spent Rs 2,54,443 during the Third Five-year Plan period, Rs 10,350 during the yearly Plan periods from 1966—69 and Rs 2,98,500 during the Fourth Five-year Plan period, the number of persons/units benefited being 449 and 22 and 414 respectively. The amount expended by government in this connection is indicated in the statement below :

Head of expenditure	Amount (in Rs)		
	Third Five-year plan period	Yearly plans from 1966 to 1969	Fourth Five-year plan period
Construction of houses and purchase of lands	39,104	—	86,600
Development of cottage industries	95,487	3,600	54,500
Drinking water schemes	20,800	3,000	46,000
Development of agriculture	20,840	1,250	52,000

Since Independence much stress has been laid by the government on the advancement of education among the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, the Other Backward Classes and the Momin Ansars and the number of students of these groups is increasing every year. There is provision for the free education of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes students up to the higher classes. The statement below gives some details about scholarships and freeships in tuition fees given to these groups in 1974-75 :

Scholarships and tuition fees given	Other Back-ward classes						Amount Spent
	No. of boys	No. of girls	No. of boys	No. of girls	No. of boys	No. of girls	
<b>Scholarship given up to</b>							
high school stage	916	119	30	—	57	12	1,24,456
<b>Scholarship given</b>							
above high school stage	143	14	1	3	19	—	99,237
<b>Freeships in tuition fee</b>							
	950	—	2	—	—	—	72,603

The State government runs a women's protective home at Kotdwara which is under the charge of a woman assistant superintendent. The government gives grants to helpless widows and also to the widows of soldiers killed in war, for their rehabilitation. In 1973-74 two colonies were constructed for housing the

Scheduled Castes, one with 10 houses in village Mothi and the other with 7 houses in village Kamoli.

#### CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS

There are a number of trusts in the district which are endowed for charitable and educational purposes. Relevant particulars of some of the better known are given below :

Trust	Date of foundation	Amount invested (in Rs)	Annual income (In rupees)	Objective
Stowel memorial endowment trust	August 8, 1927	1,500	44	Scholarships to students
Garhwal centenary scholarship endowment trust	September 28, 1927	1,500	44	Scholarships to students
Garhwal Clay memorial scholarship endowment trust	October 14, 1924	900	26	Scholarships to students
Rai Mahabir Prasad Sah Bahadur dharamsala endowment trust	November 4, 1926	16,200	476	Maintenance of dharamsala
Chandra Ballabh memorial endowment trust fund	May 27, 1921	89,000	2,616	Scholarships to students
Pandit Tara Dutta Khanduri scholarship endowment trust	June 27, 1927	2,400	70	Scholarships to students
Dr Saligram Singh Parmar scholarship endowment trust	July 11, 1932	3,200	94	Scholarships to students
Govind Pathshala endowment trust fund	July 28, 1938	12,800	376	Maintenance of pathshala
Victory memorial behevolent fund. Garhwali ex-services	May 24, 1948	71,700	2,705	—

## WELFARE OF EX-SERVICEMEN

For the welfare of ex-servicemen, there is a district soldiers', sailors' and airmen's board in the district, which was established in 1954. It works under the control and supervision of the director, soldiers' welfare, U. P. In the district the work of the board is supervised by a secretary who is a paid employee and an ex-serviceman. The board, as elsewhere, provides various facilities for ex-servicemen and their families and assists them in their rehabilitation. These facilities include pensions, scholarships, relief grants, employment, medical treatment, settlement of accounts, permits for controlled commodities, settlement of disputed cases, etc.

The assistance rendered to ex-servicemen during the five years ended 1974 was to the following extent :

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Ex-servicemen No.	145	64	127	91	182
and widows Amount					
helped					
Wards of ex-servicemen (Rs 20,828)	(Rs 15,690)	(Rs 25,925)	(Rs 20,000)	(Rs 26,836)	
who received No. scholarships	345	389	427	55	200
Amount					
(Rs 38,782)	(Rs 34,812)	(Rs 35, 800)	(Rs 3,580)	(Rs 18,344)	

National awards for outstanding gallantry were given to the following persons of the armed forces hailing from the district :

Name with rank	Village and tahsil	National award
Rifleman Gurnam Singh Rawat	Village Koltha, P. O. Devalgarh, Tahsil Pauri	Vir Chakra
Subedar Jatan Singh Gusain	Village Barsuri, P. O. Chiphalghat, Tahsil Pauri	Vir Chakra
(The late) rifleman Trilok Singh Negi	Village Thair, P. O. Soola, Tahsil Pauri	Vir Chakra
Hony. Lt Narendra Datt	Village Thapli, P. O. Toli Tahsil Pauri	Vir Chakra
Sergeant Shiv Lal	Village Kothar, P. O. Pauri, Tahsil Pauri	Vir Chakra

## CHAPTER XVIII

### PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

#### REPRESENTATION OF DISTRICT IN LEGISLATURES

##### Political Parties

The political parties, as organised today, were non-existent in Garhwal before the second decade of the present century, when a branch of the Indian National Congress was opened there in 1920-21. The Indian National Congress, the Theosophical Society and the like had by then gained a footing in the district, providing a political and socio-religious forum where people of learning and aspiration could converge and express their views. These bodies were the first representatives of any organised public opinion in the district. In 1919, the agitation and public meetings started by Anusuya Prasad Bahuguna and Kesri Singh Rawat against the large-scale recruitment of forced and low-paid coolies in Garhwal, were the first manifestation of the opinion of the people before the advent of the Non-co-operation Movement of 1920-21. When launched, it received a most encouraging response from the people of the district and many of them joined the movement. In 1930, the Civil Disobedience Movement was active when important meetings were addressed by Govind Ballabh Pant in 1930 at Dogadda and Nar Dev Shastri at Gamkeshwar in 1931. Similar public meetings and political conferences were also organised at different places in the district.

Public meetings, political conferences, processions and hartals of the national movement for freedom reached a climax in the form of the Quit India Movement of 1942, which ushered the people into a new era. The latest storm of the national struggle, which had been gathering momentum beneath an apparently placid and silent exterior, flared up in 1942 and continued till the country achieved Independence in August, 1947.

The important political parties active in the district are mostly the local units of all-India political organisations. A few political parties, organised on the State level, also contested the various general elections. In course of time, some of these parties got merged in one or more parties with separate names. Due to a rift in the Indian National Congress in 1970, a section of leaders left it in 1970, to form another party then called Congress 'N' ('N' for Nijalingappa, the president of the group) and after 1971 Congress (Organisation). The remaining group was called Congress 'J' ('J' for Jagjivan Ram, the then president of the group) and after 1971 the Indian National Congress. The major political parties active here during the general elections were the Indian National Congress, Praja Socialist Party, Bhartiya

**Jan Sangh**, Communist Party of India, Communist Party of India (Marxist), Socialist Party, Samyukt Socialist Party, Bhartiya Kranti Dal, Swatantra Party and Hindu Mahasabha. of these only the Congress contested all the general elections in the district held so far. After the general elections of 1974, a few political parties including Swatantra, Rashtriya Lok Tantrik Dal, Bhartiya Kranti Dal and Socialist Party merged and formed a new political organisation on an all-India level, known as the Bhartiya Lok Dal.

The Government of India Act. 1935, enforced on April 1, 1937, introduced provincial autonomy, was the first step in the direction of the parliamentary form of government. Under this Act, the general elections to the State legislative assembly were held in 1937. The Indian National Congress gained the majority in the State legislature and a Congress ministry was formed which resigned in 1939 on the issue of being prepared to participate in the Second World War effort only if the British government agreed to give India her freedom. The next elections to the legislative assembly were held in 1945 and a Congress ministry was formed again. The provincial legislature started functioning from April 1, 1946. After the Second World War the British government announced its momentous decision of withdrawing from India.

On the basis of the Constitution of India, as enacted on January, 1950, the first general elections, both for the Lok Sabha and the Vidhan Sabha, were held in 1952.

#### State Legislature

**Vidhan Sabha**—In the general elections of 1952, this district was divided into four constituencies, those of Chamoli (West)-cum-Pauri (North); Lansdowne (East); Lansdowne (West); and Pauri (South)-cum-Chamoli (East), the last named being a double-member constituency with one seat reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidate. There were 3,59,900 voters and about 32 per cent exercised the right of franchise. The invalid votes were 1.7 per cent. In all, 20 candidates contested the five seats, 4 being won by the Indian National Congress. The results were as follows :

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Votes polled	Percentage	Average votes per candidate
Communist Party of India	1	-	1,672	1.53	1,672
Hindu Mahasabha	1	-	1,429	1.30	1,429
Indian National Congress	5	4	52,295	47.73	10,459
Socialist Party	3	1	12,881	11.76	4,294
Independents	10	-	41,299	37.68	4,130
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1,09,576</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>—</b>

In the general elections of 1957, the number and names of the constituencies were altered. The new constituencies were the single-member ones of Badrinath, Kedarnath, Pauri, Lansdowne and Ganga Saloon. The number of electors was 3,62,992 and about 31.48 per cent participated in the voting, the number of invalid votes being 261. In all 12 candidates contested the five seats, four being won by the Congress candidates. The results were as follows :

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Votes polled	Percentage	Average votes per candidate
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	1	-	4,979	4.37	4,979
Indian National Congress	5	4	55,291	48.55	11,058
Independents	6	1	53,809	47.08	8,934
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1,13,879</b>	<b>100.00</b>	—

In the general elections of 1962, the number and names of the constituencies remained unchanged. Although the new district of Chamoli had come into existence in 1960, due to shortage of time it was ignored for the purposes of fresh delimitation. In 1962 elections, the number of electors was 3,71,492 and 33.5 per cent voters participated in the polls. The number of invalid votes was 6,448. Of the five seats which were contested by 18 candidates, three were won by the Congress. The results are given below :

सत्यमेव जयते

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Votes polled	Percentage	Average votes per candidate
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	2	-	4,927	3.69	2,163
Indian National Congress	5	3	58,476	50.01	11,695
Praja Socialist	2	1	11,308	9.86	5,654
Independents	9	1	42,898	36.64	4,760
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1,16,949</b>	<b>100.00</b>	—

In the general elections of 1967, the number of seats was reduced to 3 and the delimitation of constituencies was made separately for district Chamoli. The newly formed single-member constituencies were those of Lansdowne, Ekeshwar and Pauri. The strength of the electors was 2,46,836 and about 39 per cent votes

were polled. The invalid votes numbered 6,316. Eighteen candidates contested the 3 seats: the Congress, Swatantra and the Independents getting one seat each. The results were as follows:

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Votes polled	Percentage	Average votes per candidate
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	2	-	4,941	5.40	2,470
Communist Party (Marxist)	1	-	2,150	2.37	2,159
Indian National Congress	3	1	28,783	31.49	9,594
Swatantra Party	3	1	22,698	24.83	7,566
Independents	9	1	32,813	35.91	3,159
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>81,394</b>	<b>100.00</b>	—

The Congress ministry formed after the general elections resigned on April 1, 1967 owing to a large number of defection from the Congress party. The new government formed by the leader of the defect members with the help of other parties could not last long. The Vidhan Sabha, constituted after the 1967 general elections, was dissolved on February 25, 1968, due to resignation of Congress legislature party. After the promulgation of president's rule, the administration of the State was taken over by the governor of the State. A midterm poll was held in February 1969 which the number and names of the constituencies remained unchanged. Of the 2,53,048 voters 43.4 per cent participated in the voting. The number of invalid votes was 4,696. In all, 26 candidates belonging to 8 different political parties, including the Independents, contested the 3 seats, 2 being won by the Independents. The results were as follows:

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Votes polled	Percentage	Average votes per candidate
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	3	-	21,506	20.64	7,169
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	3	-	1,263	1.22	421
Communist Party of India	1	-	664	0.63	664
Indian National Congress	3	1	36,884	35.41	12,294
Mazdoor Parishad	2	-	2,310	2.22	2,134
Samyukt Socialist Party	2	-	741	0.72	371
Swatantra Party	1	-	2,134	2.03	2,134
Independents	11	2	38,684	37.13	3,517
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1,04,186</b>	<b>100.00</b>	—

On October 1, 1970, the State was again placed under president's rule, though for a few days only and on October 18, the ministry was formed in the State by the Samyukta Vidhayak Dal. This ministry also did not last for more than five months.

In the wake of large scale defections the Congress (R) managed to muster absolute majority in the State Assembly and formed the government in April, 1971.

But in June, 1973 the Congress ministry resigned and State was placed under President's rule once again which was revoked in November, 1973 by the formation of ministry by the Congress.

For the general elections of 1974, the number of constituencies remained unchanged but they were again delimited, the newly-formed ones being those of Lansdowne, Pauri and Karnprayag. The strength of the electors was 3,23,731 and 38.7 per cent exercised their right of franchise. The invalid votes were 4.4 per cent. The results were as follows :

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Votes polled	Percentage	Average votes per candidate
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	3	—	10,025	8.0	3,842
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	1	—	462	0.4	462
Congress (Organisation)	3	—	18,836	15.00	6,279
Hindu Mahasabha	1	—	349	0.3	349
Indian National Congress	3	3	80,024	63.8	26,675
Independents	9	—	15,789	12.5	1,754
Total		20	3	1,25,485	100.00
					—

### Vidhan Parishad (Legislative council)

This district forms a part of the Uttarakhand-cum-Kumaon Teachers and Garhwal-cum-Bijnor Local Authorities constituencies of the Vidhan Parishad. A resident of this district is represented in the Legislative Council, who was elected from the Local Authorities constituency.

### Union Legislature

**Lok Sabha**—For the general elections of 1957, this district formed a single-member constituency, called the Garhwal constituency, with 3,76,070 voters, about 37.5 per cent exercising their

right of franchise. The number of votes found invalid was 121. Congress, Jan Sangh and the Independent candidate contested the only seat, the Congress candidate winning it and securing about 50.52 per cent of the valid votes polled. The results are given below:

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Votes polled	Percentage
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	1	—	19,452	13.76
Indian National Congress	1	1	71,403	50.52
Independents	1	—	50,406	35.72
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1,41,321</b>	<b>100.00</b>

In the general elections of 1962, the constituency remained the same and 1,41,408 voters (about 36 per cent) of the 3,91,864 electors cast their votes. The number of invalid votes was 7,417. The Congress candidate won again, securing about 48 per cent of the votes polled. Others who had entered the contest were one each from the Republican and the Jan Sangh parties and 3 Independents. The details of results are given below:

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Votes polled	Percentage
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	1	—	13,424	9.58
Indian National Congress	1	1	67,959	48.06
Republican Party of India	1	—	8,155	6.47
Independents	3	—	50,870	35.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1,41,408</b>	<b>100.00</b>

In the general elections of 1967, the number of electors rose to 4,21,277 and the percentage of polling was about 38.8. The invalid votes were 9,336 in number. Five candidates, one each from the Congress, Jan Sangh, Samyukta Socialist and Swatantra Parties and one Independent contested this election. The Congress candidate again won the seat and secured 54.42 per cent votes. The details of result are given below:

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Votes polled	Percentage
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	1	—	25,388	15.50
Indian National Congress	1	1	89,060	54.4
Samyukt Socialist Party	1	—	12,233	7.49
Swatantra Party	1	—	29,137	17.80
Independents	1	—	7,846	4.79
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1,63,664</b>	<b>100.00</b>

On account of a rift in the Indian National Congress, the Lok Sabha constituted after the general elections of 1967 was dissolved on December 27, 1970, and a fresh poll was ordered. The mid-term parliamentary elections were held in 1971 and the new Lok Sabha was constituted in March, 1971, the names of the constituencies remaining unchanged. The number of electors was 4,56,149 and the polling was about 30.7 per cent. The two separate sections of the Congress came to be known as the Congress (J) (Indian National Congress presided over by Jagjivan Ram) and the Congress (N) (Indian National Congress presided over by Nijalingappa) respectively, three candidates, one from each section of the Congress and one Independent candidate, contesting the seat. The Indian National Congress (J) candidate was elected and polled 79.23 per cent votes. The results were as follows:

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Votes polled	Percentage
Indian National Congress (J)	1	1	1,10,971	79.28
Indian National Congress (N)	1	—	20,747	14.82
Independent	1	—	8,331	5.95
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1,40,049</b>	<b>100.00</b>

#### NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

##### Local Publications

The publication of newspapers and periodicals in this district was started in 1930 with the publication of *Garhdesh* and *Garhwal Sandesh*. Six weeklies and one monthly, all in Hindi are published from here, including *Karmabhumi*, a Hindi weekly, the oldest (published since 1939). The educational institutions of the district also publish their own institutional magazines. Some details of the local publications are given below :

Name of newspaper/place of publication	Periodicity	Year of commencement	No. of copies in circulation	Contents
<i>Garhwal Times</i> , Pauri	Weekly	1966	—	News and current affairs
<i>Gita Sandesh</i> , Udaipur	Monthly	1955	1,500	Religion and philosophy
<i>Karmabhumi</i> , Kotdwara	Weekly	1939	2,000	News and current affairs
<i>Mesana Mazdoor</i> , Kotdwara	do	1968	500	News and current affairs
<i>Pauri Times</i> , Pauri	do	1969	205	News and current affairs
<i>Satyapath</i> , Kotdwara	do	1956	1,700	News and current affairs
<i>Tharo</i> , Kotdwara	do	1969	500	News and current affairs

### Other Periodicals

The English daily newspapers of all-India or State level coverage which are generally read in the district are *The Times of India*, *The Indian Express*, *The Hindustan Times*, *The Statesman*, *The Pioneer* and *the National Herald*. The English weeklies, fortnightlies and monthlies which are popular are *Blitz*, *The Illustrated Weekly of India*, *Filmfare*, *Life*, *The Reader's Digest*, *Picturepost*, *Careers and Courses* and some others. All these are published outside the district.

The Hindi daily newspapers published outside the district and read by the people of the district, among others, are *Hindustan*, *Nav Bharat Times*, *Navjivan* and *Swatantra Bharat*. Among the weeklies, fortnightlies and monthly periodicals and magazines usually read here are *Dharamyug*, *Saptahik Hindustan*, *Blitz*, *Sarita*, *Mukta*, *Navneet*, *Niharika*, *Kadambini*, *Manohar Kohania*, *Nandan*, *Chandamama*, *Parag*, *Madhuri*, *Urvashi* and *Sushama*.

The Urdu dailies, weeklies and monthlies popular in the district are *Quami Awaz*, *Ghuncha*, *Blitz*, *Shama*, *Biswin Sadi* and *Sarita*.

A number of free as well as priced publications of the Central and State governments, diplomatic missions, various cultural religious, spiritual, political and economic organisations, both national and international, and the various agencies of the United Nations are also mailed to the libraries and reading-rooms in the district.

#### VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

With the advent of the British rule and the western system of education in the country, missionary institutions were set up which gave rise to many religious and social organisations such as the Arya Samaj, the Ram Krishna Mission and the like and the establishment of hospitals, technical, non-technical and educational institutions, etc. Since Independence, the government has taken active interest in the welfare and uplift of cultural and social service organisations.

Though such voluntary welfare organisations are free to undertake any welfare schemes, government expects that their activities are in harmony with its schemes and policies. This is generally achieved through the system of grants given to such organisations and by the periodical examination of the utilisation of such grants.

Efforts have been made to co-ordinate the activities of the old voluntary social service organisations and those new institutions which government has initiated and to enlist peoples participation at the same time. Some important social service organisations of the district are mentioned below.

The Navyuvak Sangh was established in the district in 1923. The aim of the association is to promote the well-being of the youth of the district in the cultural, social and economic fields. The association lays emphasis on the development of the ideas of national integration and the physical development of the youth. It also organises indoor and out-door games, etc. and runs a library and a reading-room. Social functions at the time of national religious occasions, cultural and literary conferences and industrial exhibitions are also arranged by the association.

There is a unit of the Pradeshik Vikas Dal in the district. The scope of its activities is confined to the rural areas, where special attention is paid to educate illiterate people, so as to enable them to achieve good results in agriculture, etc. To inculcate the spirit of co-operation among the rural masses, *Shramdan*, sports, games and athletic meets are organised by the Dal. *Mahila* and *Yuvak* Mangal Dals have also been organised

in the district. The scheme of free distribution of nutritive diet is also in operation at Lansdowne and Pabau.

The Arya Samaj runs a reading-room known as the Sharanand library. This body also emphasises the implementation of prohibition in the district. The Harijan welfare department has also opened a reading-room at Panchpura and in many primary schools. A shelter home for women has been opened at Kotdwara.

The crime prevention society of the district lays emphasis on the rehabilitation of prisoners and those who are released. Its main aims and objects are to work for the prevention of crime and to create a healthy environment.

The prohibition society of the district, consisting of an organiser, a supervisor and some *pracharaks*, lays stress on advancing prohibition by advertising the ill and evil effects of the drinking habit through mass contacts and propaganda. The Sarvodaya Samaj also performs similar functions and undertakes other welfare activities.



## CHAPTER XIX

### PLACES OF INTEREST

#### **Adwani (pargana Barahsyun, tahsil Pauri)**

Adwani is a halting place on the old road from Kotdwara to Pauri, approximately half way (hence the name) between Pauri and Banghat which are distant 16 km. and 19 km. from it respectively. It lies in Lat.  $30^{\circ}4'$  N. and Long.  $78^{\circ}44'$  E. from Adwani a road branches off to Byansghat, about 15 km. west at the junction of the Ganga and the Nayar.

Above Adwani lies the well-known Ranigarh peak, crowned by the remains of an old fort. From this point there is a fine view of the hills as far west as Mussoorie. Adwani has a dispensary and a forest rest-house. The place is included in the village of Gidrasi (Gidrasu) which has a population of 376 and an area of about 153 ha.

#### **Bah (pargana Barahsyun, tahsil Pauri)**

Bah, a bazar and a halting place on the Hardwar-Badrinath road, lies in Lat.  $30^{\circ}8'$  N. and Long.  $78^{\circ}39'$  E., on the left bank of the Alaknanda opposite Devaprayag in district Tehri Garhwal. Just below Bah is the confluence of the Alaknanda and the Bhagirathi, the united stream from here being known as the Ganga. The pilgrim from Hardwar has to cross to Devaprayag to perform his religious devotions where there is the *prayag* (confluence) and the temple dedicated to Raghunath but as a rule he makes his stay at Bah, merely crossing over during the day and returning the same evening. The majority of *pandas* who conduct pilgrims to the temples live in Devaprayag and in Ranakot. With a population of 580, Bah forms a part of the Devaprayag notified area which is in district Tehri Garhwal. Bah has a higher secondary and a junior Basic school and an inspection house of the public works department.

#### **Baijroo (pargana Malla Salan, tahsil Lansdowne)**

Baijroo, a halting place on the route from Kainur to Ramnagar, lies in patti Sabli in Lat.  $29^{\circ}55'$  N. and Lang  $79^{\circ}3'E.$ , on the left bank of the Eastern Nayar, about 122 km. north-east of Lansdowne and 142 km. south-east of Pauri.

\*Figures of population and area in this chapter are based on census 1971

Five roads branch off from this place, one to Kainur on the north, another to Bungidhar on the north-east, one to Sarainkhet on the east (in district Almora) one to Domaila on the left bank of the Eastern Nayar and one to Pokhra on the west. The place is said to derive its name from *bajo*, a species of grass and *rao*, an eddy. It has a rest-house of the forest department.

### **Bironkhal (pargana Talla Salan, tahsil Lansdowne)**

Bironkhal, a place on the Kainur-Ramnagar road lies in Lat.  $29^{\circ}51'$  N. and Long.  $79^{\circ}2'$  E., on the left bank of the Eastern Nayar, about 65 km. south-east of Pauri. A road running westward leads to Banghat on the Kotdwara-Pauri road.

The place is the headquarters of a development block of the same name and has a primary health centre, a maternity and child welfare centre and a family planning centre. Bironkhal is included in the village of Domaila Malla which has a population of 853 and an area of 93 ha.

### **Byansghat (pargana Barahsyun, tahsil Pauri)**

Byansghat, a halting place on the bridle-road from Hardwar to Bdrinath, lies in Lat.  $30^{\circ}4'$  N. and Long.  $78^{\circ}37'$  E., just above the confluence of the Nayar and the Ganga in *patti* Banelsyun of pargana Barahsyun, about 70 km. south-west of Pauri by the motor road. A road leads from this place to Adwani on the Kotdwara-Pauri road. Another road follows the Navar via Banghat to Dangal on the Maudi river. The place derives its name from Vyas, an ascetic, who in ancient days performed penance here and a small temple here is dedicated to his memory.

The place has an inspection bungalow. It is included in the village of Naugaon which has a population of 119 and an area of 222 ha.

### **Devalgarh (pargana Devalgarh, tahsil Pauri)**

Devalgarh, which gives its name to a pargana, lies in Lat.  $30^{\circ}13'$  N. and Long.  $78^{\circ}52'$  E., about 8 km. east of Srinagar, on the left bank of the Deval Gad a tributary of the Alaknanda. It derives its name from the old *daval* (meaning temple) of the rajas of Garhwal, which still exists. Devalgarh was for long the seat of the early rajas who afterwards acquired the hegemony of the district. The village has an area of 6 ha. and a population of 22. The Devalgarh fair is held here in honour of Gaura Devi on the occasion of Vishvat Sanshranti in the month of Vaisakha, the attendance being about 4,000. Blankets, medicines, baskets, metal utensils, pictures, wooden toys and sweets are sold at the fair.

### **Dogadda (pargana Talla Salan, tahsil Lansdowne)**

The town of Dogadda lies in Lat.  $29^{\circ}45'$  N. and Long.  $78^{\circ}37'$  E. about 14 km. south-west of Lansdowne and 16 km.

Vidhyalaya (government normal school), 3 hospitals (including the district and the women's hospitals), a T.B. clinic, a dispensary, an industrial wool-weaving training-cum-production centre, a branch of the State Bank of India, four rest houses and a children's park.

### **Pokhra (pargana Malla Sain, tahsil Lansdowne)**

Pokhra is a fairly large village and lies in Lat.  $29^{\circ}55' N.$  and Long.  $78^{\circ}55' E.$ , in patti Talain, on the Satpuli-Almora road, about 95 km. north-east of Lansdowne. The place is situated in a pine forest and is the headquarters of a development block. The village has a population of 485 and an area of 113 ha. It has a primary health centre, a maternity and child welfare centre and a family planning centre.

### **Punar or Rudraprayag (pargana Devalgarh, tahsil Pauri)**

Punar is situated in Lat.  $30^{\circ} 17' N.$  and Long.  $78^{\circ} 58' E.$ , on the left bank of the Alaknanda river, on the route from Hardwar to Badrinath and Kedarnath, about 64 km. north-east of Pauri by road. The old site of the place was destroyed by the Gohna flood in 1894, the new site being higher up above the water's edge. A little way below is the confluence of the Alaknanda and the Mandakini, forming one of the five sacred *prayags* (junctions) above Hardwar and opposite it, on the right bank of the Alaknanda, where the Mandakini meets it, is the temple dedicated to Rudranath (an appellation of Siya in district Chamoli), both these features giving it its other name of Rudraprayag. Before proceeding to Kedarnath, pilgrims going there perform ablutions at this temple. The story goes that the sage Narada underwent penance here in order to obtain *darshan* of Rudranath (Siva). It has a junior Basic school for boys, a junior high school for girls, an intermediate college, two dispensaries, a dharmasala and a maternity and child welfare centre. The village has a population of 1,704 and an area of 223 ha.

### **Rikhnikhali (pargana Talla Salan, tahsil Lansdowne)**

Rikhnikhali lies in Lat.  $29^{\circ}46' N.$  and Long.  $78^{\circ}52' E.$ , on the road for Lansdowne to Banjiadevi, about 24 km. south-east of Lansdowne. Bridle-roads also lead to Banjiadevi on the south and to Domla on the north-east.

The place is the headquarters of a development block and had a primary health centre, a maternity and child welfare centre and a family planning centre. Rikhnikhali is included in the village of Dalmota which has a population of 191 and an area of 158 ha.

### **Srinagar (pargana Devalgarh, tahsil Pauri)**

Srinagar, the next largest town in the district after Kotdwara, lies in patti Katulsyun at an elevation of about 520 m. above sea-level, on the left bank of the Alaknanda in Lat.  $30^{\circ}13' N.$  and

Long.  $78^{\circ}47'$  E. It is on the main route from Hardwar to the temples of Kedarnath and Badrinath. According to a (religious) tradition of the Hindus, Satyasandh, a local ruler in Satayuga, killed the demon Kolasur with the *shriyantra*, a weapon obtained as a boon from the goddess Durga. The place where the weapon was fixed after killing the demon came to be known as Shrikshetra and the town, which was founded there by Ajayapala in 1517, was called Srinagar in honour of this deed. It is also said that the place was the capital of Raja Silnidhi and also the site of the disillusionment of Narada (the sage) who, being lured by the charm of Silnidhi's daughter, yearned to marry her. Once the capital of Garhwal and the residence of the Garhwal rajas, the old town was washed away by the Gohna flood in 1894 and only a few ruins remain to testify to its former site. The land on which it stood is under cultivation and the new town is located much higher up and about a kilometre to the north-east of the old position. Only three of the many temples of importance escaped the ravages of the flood. Below the town, at a distance of about a kilometre, is the Saiva temple of Kamleshwar maintained out of *gunth* revenues. Here women lesiuring offspring spend the night of Baikunt Chaturdashi (which falls on the fourteenth day of the bright half of the month of Kartika). They stand around the temple with ghee-ted lamps in their hands and those whose strength is equal to the vigil and whose lamps are still alight at dawn are supposed to have won the favour of the god. The fair is attended by about 4,000 persons.

The new town has streets lined with avenues of trees. The houses are, for the most part, double-storeyed, are built of stone and roofed with slates.

सत्यमेव जयते

The town, which is electrified is administered as a municipality and has a population of 5,566 and an area 7.77 sq. km. A university was established here in 1972 (the university of Garhwal). The town also has a government degree college, two higher secondary schools, a public library, a reading-room, three hospitals, a furniture-making centre an industrial estate, a maternity and child welfare centre, a branch of the Punjab National Bank, a rest-house of Zila Parishad and an industrial training institute.

### Thalisain (pargana Devalgarh, tahsil Pauri)

Thalisain stands in Lat.  $30^{\circ}1'$  N. and Long.  $79^{\circ}3'$  E., at an altitude of about 5,500 m. on the road from Pauri to Almora, about 61 km. south-east of Pauri on the left bank of the Eastern Nayar and is included in the village of Kainur. The village has a population of 979 people and an area of 652 ha.

It is the headquarters of a development block and has a primary health centre, a maternity and child welfare centre and a family planning centre.

## CONVERSION FACTORS

### Money

1 Pie = 0.52 Paise  
1 Pice = 1.56 Paise

### Linear measure

1 inch = 2.54 centimetres  
1 foot = 30.48 centimetres  
1 yard = 91.44 centimetres  
1 mile = 1.61 kilometres

### Public measure

1 square foot = 0.093 square metre  
1 square yard = 0.836 square metre  
1 square mile = 2.59 square kilometres = 259 hectares  
1 acre = 0.405 hectare

### Cubic measure

1 cubic foot = 0.028 cubic metre

### Measure of Capacity

1 gallon (Imperial) = 4.55 litres  
1 seer\* (80 tolas) = 0.937 litre

### Measure of weight

1 tola = 11.66 grams  
1 chatak = 58.32 grams  
1 seer\* = 933.10 grams  
1 maund\* = 37.32 kilograms  
1 ounce (Avoirdupois) = 28.35 grams  
1 pound (Avoirdupois) = 453.59 grams  
1 hundredweight = 50.80 kilograms  
1 ton = 1016.05 kilograms = 1.016 metric tonnes

### Thermometer Scales

$1^\circ \text{ Fahrenheit} = \frac{9}{5}^\circ \text{ centigrade} + 32$

\*A; defined in Indian Standards Weight Act, 1939.



## GLOSSARY

<b>Adalat</b>	— Court of Justice
<b>Ahimsa</b>	— Non-violence
<b>Amin</b>	— Petty revenue official
<b>Asami</b>	— A lessee of a disabled Bhumidhar or of a Sirdar or a tenant of the <i>gaon sabha</i> , having no transferable rights
<b>Ashram</b>	— Hermitage
<b>Assisal Bandobast</b>	— Revenue settlement for eighty years
<b>Ath-lakh</b>	— Eight lakhs
<b>Battis Kalam</b>	— Thirty two items of ministerial fees
<b>Benap</b>	— Unmeasured
<b>Bhaugla</b>	— A coarse cloth
<b>Bhotia Badam</b>	— A type of almond
<b>Bhumidhar</b>	— Peasant proprietor having permanent heritable and transferable rights in his holdings
<b>Biradri</b>	— Kinship
<b>Chabutra</b>	— Platform
<b>Chakor</b>	— A kind of small bird
<b>Chapati(s)</b>	— Bread
<b>Chattis Rakam</b>	— Thirty six items of royal revenue
<b>Cherra</b>	— Dysentery
<b>Chuwa</b>	— A specie of amaranthus
<b>Daftaris</b>	— Revenue official
<b>Dand</b>	— Fine
<b>Deshi</b>	— Indigenous
<b>Dharmshastra</b>	— A religious book
<b>Dhol</b>	— Drum
<b>Diggies</b>	— A tank where water is stored
<b>Dilara</b>	— An agricultural implement
<b>Donal</b>	— A stream which has the capacity to turn water mill
<b>Ekavani-Bavani</b>	— Samvat year 1851-52
<b>Fard phant</b>	— Record of the estimated areas of cultivable land
<b>Faujdar</b>	— Subordinate military officer under Mughals
<b>Gaon Sabha (s)</b>	— Village assembly
<b>Gaon Sanjayat</b>	— Land belonging to the village community
<b>Garvabhanjan</b>	— Annihilator of pride
<b>Ghar</b>	— House
<b>Gharat</b>	— Water mill

<i>Gorkhiani</i>	— Reflecting the oppressive rule of the Gurkhas
<i>Goth</i>	— Small room
<i>Gotra</i>	— Eponymous group descended from a common ancestor in the male line of descent
<i>Gul</i>	— Water drain used for irrigation
<i>Gulal</i>	— Coloured powder
<i>Gulli-danda</i>	— An Indian game
<i>Gundhi</i>	— A small fly which damage the paddy crop
<i>Gunth</i>	— Assignment of land made for the maintenance of temples
<i>Gur</i>	— Jaggery
<i>Gurukula</i>	— Residential educational institution at guru's own place
<i>Halwa</i>	— A sweet dish prepared from suji (granular wheat product) sugar and ghee
<i>Havan</i>	— Fire sacrifice
<i>Hissedar(s)</i>	— Share holder
<i>Ijran</i>	— Land cultivated every third or fourth year
<i>Irjan</i>	— Inferior terraced land
<i>Jamabandi</i>	— Account book
<i>Jamun</i>	— <i>Syzygium cumini</i>
<i>Jatras</i>	— Travels
<i>Jhangora</i>	— A coarse grain resembling rice
<i>Jhanj</i>	— Cymbal
<i>Jol</i>	— An agricultural implement
<i>Joshiyana</i>	— Refers to Harsh Déo Joshi's sweeping march over Srinagar
<i>Kabaddi</i>	— An Indian game
<i>Kamdar</i>	— Labourer
<i>Kamin(s)</i>	— Land holder authorised to collect revenue in a village
<i>Kanungo</i>	— Petty revenue official
<i>Katil</i>	— Land cultivated every third or fourth year
<i>Khatkar(s)</i>	— Akin to under-proprietor
<i>Khalan</i>	— Crown land
<i>Khil</i>	— Inferior unterraced land cultivated intermittently
<i>Khuria</i>	— An animal disease
<i>Kodara</i>	— Land where <i>mandua</i> is sown
<i>Kurta</i>	— A loose long shirt
<i>Kutcha rupee</i>	— Local currency in the past

<i>Leijhari</i>	— Tax on low caste people
<i>Mahal</i>	— Unit of land under separate engagement for payment of revenue
<i>Malguzar</i>	— A shareholder responsible for collecting the revenue
<i>Mandua</i>	— A kind of small millet
<i>Manrog</i>	— Rinderpest
<i>Marsa</i>	— A type of land
<i>Maufidar(s)</i>	— Revenue free land holders
<i>Maurusidar</i>	— Hereditary land holder
<i>Mehr</i>	— Dower
<i>Mela(s)</i>	— Fair
<i>Mend-bundi</i>	— Fencing of the field
<i>Maufi</i>	— Revenue free land
<i>Mufassil</i>	— A keeper of the revenue records
<i>Munsif</i>	— A puisne judge
<i>Muntakhib</i>	— The list of fields with names of cultivators
<i>Murki</i>	— Ear ring
<i>Murli</i>	— Pipe
<i>Nagara</i>	— Kettle drum
<i>Naib</i>	— Assistant
<i>Nali</i>	— Unit of measuring land
<i>Nankar</i>	— Capitation tax
<i>Nayabad</i>	— New cultivation
<i>Nyaya</i>	— Justice
<i>Nazrana</i>	— Premium
<i>Pakoras</i>	— Deep fried vegetable with a covering of gram flour
<i>Palki</i>	— Palanquin
<i>Panch</i>	— Member of <i>gaon panchayat</i>
<i>Panchar</i>	— The field where the water-supply is irregular
<i>Parishad</i>	— Board
<i>Pathshala</i>	— School
<i>Patti (s)</i>	— Tract of land
<i>Patwari</i>	— A petty revenue official
<i>Phant</i>	— Register of the holdings of each proprietor and <i>khaikar</i>
<i>Podsol</i>	— Clayey soil
<i>Phaucha</i>	— Saddle bags
<i>Pracharak</i>	— Propagator
<i>Pradhan</i>	— President
<i>Pramukh</i>	— Chairman
<i>Puja</i>	— Worship
<i>Purie</i>	— Deep fried bread

<b>Raksha</b>	— A method of catching fish
<b>Sadabart</b>	— Endowment for providing food and other assistance to pilgrims
<b>Sahayak Sarpanch</b>	— Deputy headman of a panchayat
<b>Salamya</b>	— Premium of acquiring a lease
<b>Samiti</b>	— Committee
<b>Sapinda</b>	— Literally having the same <i>pinda</i> or funeral Cake; agnate within <b>seven generation</b>
<b>Sarpanch</b>	— Headman of panchayat
<b>Satyara</b>	— <b>Land where paddy is sown</b>
<b>Sawai</b>	— Getting back one and a quarter times the quantity lent
<b>Sayana</b>	— Headman
<b>Sera</b>	— Field with sufficient supply of water
<b>Shramdan</b>	— Voluntary labour
<b>Simar</b>	— Some part of <i>Sera</i> usually man by
<b>Sirdar</b>	— A holder of the land having only cultivation rights but no right to transfer the <b>holdings</b>
<b>Sirtan</b>	— Tenant who paid government revenue
<b>Sonya Phagun</b>	— Presents at public festivals
<b>Talaon</b>	— Irrigated land
<b>Tandkar</b>	— Tax on looms
<b>Taqavi</b>	— <b>Advance of money given to cultivators with or without interest</b>
<b>Tehrii</b>	— List of fields held by each cultivator
<b>Thali</b>	— Metal plate
<b>Thokdars</b>	— <b>Feudal barons</b>
<b>Tirthankara</b>	— In Jainism, expounder of religion, deified Hero or saint
<b>Tisali</b>	— Pertaining to three years
<b>Tripitaka</b>	— <b>Sacred book of Buddhists</b>
<b>Turhi</b>	— Trumpet
<b>Ugal</b>	— Buck wheat
<b>Ukhar</b>	— Unirrigated land
<b>Up- pradhan</b>	— Vice-president
<b>Up-pramukh</b>	— Vice-chairman
<b>Upraon</b>	— Dry land
<b>Vidyarambha</b>	— <b>Commencement of reading and writing</b>
<b>Zarb-bisi</b>	— Method of determining the value of land on the basis of which revenue is fixed

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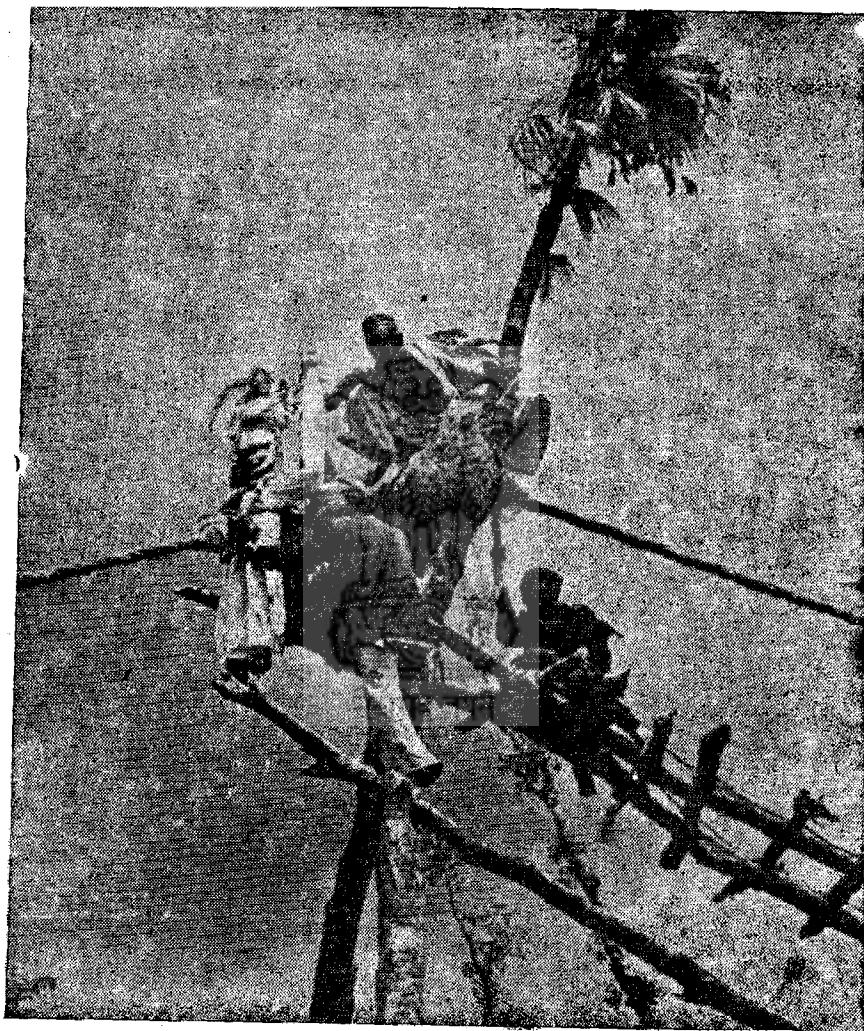
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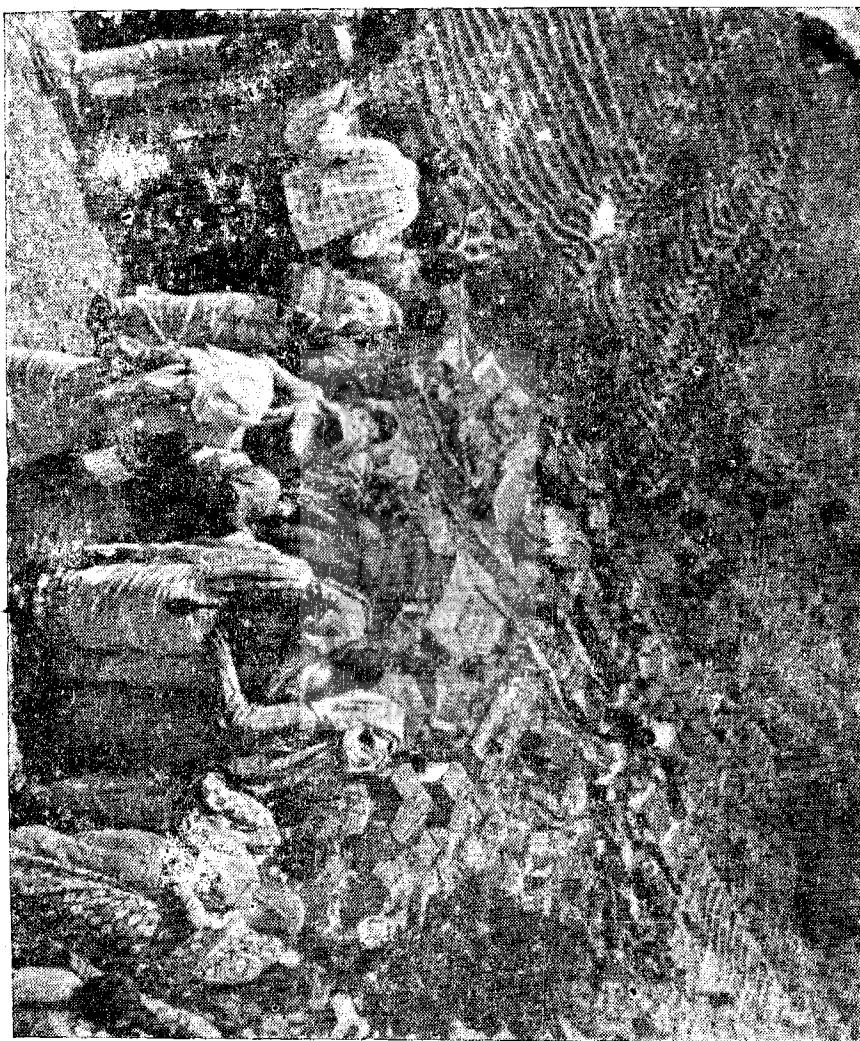
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**Transmission of Berhasit by the rope**



Fair of Berhani, Khirsu



**Folkdance of Garhwal**

Images of Ghati Devi



**A view of Srinagar**





**Temple of Kamleshwar Mahadeo, Srinagar**